

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

4 DECEMBER 1980

American Hostages

AFF reported that the Algerian delegation conveying the U.S. explanations to the questions raised by Iran regarding the initial U.S. reply to the Majlis conditions for the release of the hostages arrived in Tehran on 4 December. The news agency said the U.S. explanation is to be handed to Minister of State Behzad Nabavi, the head of the ministerial committee dealing with the hostage issue.

Iran Domestic Affairs

Bani-Sadr, Raja'i With Khomeyni--President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr and Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i have met separately with Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni to discuss current events in the country and the Gulf war. In an interview with a PARS correspondent, reported by Tehran radio, after his meeting, Bani-Sadr acknowledged "our economy has problems," but he urged the people to have confidence in the government and its development plans. He said the people who withdrew their money from the banks at the start of the war because of "apathy" and a lack of confidence should return their deposits so that the banks can resume their full range of activities. Prime Minister Raja'i, also interviewed by PARS, said that he reported to Khomeyni on the fire at the Esfahan oil refinery and received instructions regarding its protection and the possible prosecution of people responsible for the fire. He also noted a discussion with Khomeyni about the country's economic situation and monetary and banking issues.

Fifth Column Warning--The Publicity Headquarters of the Supreme Defense Council, in a statement reported by Tehran radio, warned the public against "counterrevolutionaries and the enemy fifth column." Disguised as laborers, it charged, they are conducting polls about economic and political problems caused by the war. The statement urged the people not to answer the questions asked by these "illegal interviewers" in order to block the flow of information to the enemy and "stop abuse" by the fifth columnists and to report such people to security authorities.

Refugee Ban--According to Ahvaz radio, the Behbahan governor's office announced that the city has no additional facilities to shelter refugees fleeing from the fighting in neighboring Khuzestan. Behbahan is currently housing 110,000 refugees, the governor's office reported.

Bani-Sadr Press Conference--President Bani-Sadr has asserted that Iran has defeated the Iraqi attempt to destroy the Islamic revolution and has now embarked on "the second phase" in the war which will "expel the enemy" from the country. In a press conference reported by Tehran radio, Bani-Sadr said the Saddam Husayn regime in Iraq does not have a popular foundation, is "dictatorial" and is dependent on big powers. If Iran remains united and is patient, he added, Saddam Husayn will be overthrown.

Concerning the confrontation between Syria and Jordan, the president said that war is "unsuitable and improper" according to Islamic teachings and that he preferred that "Shah Husayn" be replaced through the actions of the Jordanian people. He accused Jordan of giving "practical support" to Iraq and participating "in this great conspiracy" against Iran to reestablish U.S. hegemony in the Middle East. The Supreme Defense Council is considering a five-point peace proposal presented by Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca, who visited Tehran on 30 November, the president continued, and it is hoped it will make a decision shortly and inform the Cuban minister.

Asked about cooperation between the revolution guards and the army, Bani-Sadr said that ensuring coordination and unity among the commands of the two forces "is not an easy task" but that efforts have been made to solve the problem and "great successes" have been achieved. The president noted that discussion is still underway over the selection of a foreign minister to implement a policy which is "neither Eastern nor Western." The person selected, he added, must be "deeply conscious" of his responsibilities in this area. Bani-Sadr said that he hopes to resolve the matter "during the next few days."

In response to a question about recent provincial demonstrations in such cities as Mashhad and Qom, Bani-Sadr reported that these incidents are under investigation to determine who the protesters "really are" because "it is very easy to create division and duality in a movement while originating from the same root." He spoke forcefully for the "unity of the clergy with the committed intelligentsia" to solve Iran's problems. The president advised dissidents not to "advance to the point of no return" or "fish in muddy waters," and he promised to find out "which hands are trying to defeat" the Islamic revolution. Unity and growth can be achieved through leadership and "certain institutions," Bani-Sadr maintained, but leadership should rest with those "knowledgeable in the process of growth" and "the ways of independent life in the world."

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Cuban Envoy in Baghdad--Cuban Foreign Minister Malmierca arrived in Baghdad on 3 December, INA reported, and met with Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz and Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi to discuss ways of ending the Gulf war.

Military Situation--Tehran radio reported that Iranian forces launched an attack across the Karkheh River, driving the Iraqi troops out of their trenches. The radio also reported further heavy artillery exchanges by the two combatants around Khuninshahr (formerly Khorramshahr). Around Abadan, Iranian forces blunted Iraqi probes across the Abadan-Mahshahr highway, the radio continued, and also repelled an Iraqi helicopter assault in the area. An Iraqi General Command communique, carried by Baghdad radio's Voice of the Masses, claimed "direct hits" on two Iranian naval vessels that tried to penetrate Khowr-e Musa Bay.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Syrian-Jordanian Relations--On 3 December Amman radio reported an official statement by Jordanian Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah denying reports that Jordan has accepted Syrian conditions for a troop withdrawal. The information minister said Jordan has not received any such conditions, adding that if Syrian officials have said Jordan has accepted their conditions, this is a "deception in a desperate attempt" to establish their "false allegations" that Jordan has been aiding the Muslim Brotherhood and has disavowed the PLO.

Riyadh radio reported on 4 December that following his return from Damascus, the Saudi second deputy prime minister and National Guard commander, Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, announced that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has promised to "gradually withdraw his forces from the Syrian-Jordanian border." The prince said that King Khalid's initiative to "contain" the tension between Syria and Jordan has been "crowned with success." Monitored Syrian and Jordanian media have not mentioned Prince 'Abdallah's statement that Syria has agreed to withdraw its troops from the border with Jordan.

Amman radio reported that following his previously reported talks with Jordanian leaders, Prince 'Abdallah left Amman on 3 December carrying a message from King Husayn in response to King Khalid's message to him. According to Damascus radio, the Saudi prince arrived in Damascus shortly afterward with a message from King Khalid to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. In further reports the radio said that after meeting with Al-Asad Prince 'Abdallah left for Riyadh and sent the Syrian president a greetings cable announcing that he was returning to Saudi Arabia "with full confidence, joy and optimism."

Amman television reported on 3 December that King Husayn continued his inspection tours of troops deployed on Jordan's northern border. According to Amman radio, in a 3 December editorial the newspaper AL-AKHBAR said that Syria is trying to "push the Syrian Army into a war with the Jordanian Army" in order to "transfer the battle to the Arab arena out of spite for Jordan because it supported Iraq" against Iran. AL-AKHBAR also reiterated Jordan's contention that the PLO's independence is being "threatened by the quarters that are attempting to contain and influence it."

PLO-Jordanian Relations--In an interview with Damascus radio on 3 December, Salih Ra'fat, member of the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DPFLP) Political Bureau and of the PLO Central Council, said King Husayn's allegation that the PLO falls under the domination of "some Arab parties" is intended to drive a wedge between the PLO and the Palestinian people in Israeli-occupied territory as well as between the PLO and Syria. By falsely alleging that the PLO is under "hegemony" and has no free will of its own and that he is the sole alternative representative of the Palestinian people, King Husayn is attempting to "liquidate the Palestinian cause," Ra'fat asserted. He added that the DPFLP considers King Husayn's stand a "flagrant interference in the PLO's internal affairs" and warned against the Jordanian regime's "resubmission of the united Arab kingdom plan as a substitute for the independent Palestinian state."

Israeli-Egyptian Relations

AFP reported on 3 December that Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir announced he will meet Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali in Paris on 4 December to try to "relaunch the deadlocked negotiations on Palestinian autonomy." In a later report, however, AFP said Butrus Ghali told newsmen that the talks would refer only to a "stepped-up normalization of bilateral relations" and would be unrelated to the stalled tripartite negotiations on Palestinian administrative autonomy, about which, he said, no useful exchanges could take place before the takeover of the new U.S. administration in January.

Syria

Damascus radio noted that Vasilii Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, left Damascus on 3 December. Moscow radio's Arabic service and TASS reported Kuznetsov met PLO Executive Chairman Yasir 'arafat and Syrian Communist Party leaders headed by Khalid Bakdash before his departure.

FBIS

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'ARAFAT, KUZNETSOV HOLD 3 DEC MEETING IN DAMASCUS

NC031714 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Text] This morning brother commander Abu 'Ammar met in Damascus with Comrade Kuznetsov, first vice president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The meeting was attended by Brother Khalid al-Fahum, chairman of the Palestine National Council and the Soviet ambassador in Damascus.

Our reporter has learned that during the meeting Brother Abu 'Ammar and Comrade Kuznetsov discussed the latest Mideast developments, local, Arab and international events, and Palestinian-Soviet relations.

Kuznetsov affirmed the USSR's firm and consistent stand of support for the Palestinian people's national and inalienable rights, including their right to repatriation, to self-determination and to establish an independent state--rights affirmed by Comrade Brezhnev in all his stands pertaining to the Middle East.

Kuznetsov expressed the USSR's appreciation of the Palestinian leadership's immense efforts for the sake of Arab solidarity and for confronting the imperialist and Zionist designs. He also lauded the Palestinian leadership's efforts to stop the Iraqi-Iranian fighting.

Brother Abu 'Ammar handed Kuznetsov a message for Comrade Brezhnev and the Soviet leadership in which he highly praised their principled and firm stands supporting the Palestinian people and their just cause and their efforts for bringing about a just and permanent solution of the Mideast problem.

PLO DESIRES TO ATTEND JANUARY ISLAMIC SUMMIT

LD040921 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 3 Dec 80 p 3

[By Talhah Jibril]

[Text] Rabat, ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT bureau--In a statement to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, PLO Executive Committee member Sidqi ad-Dajani has emphasized the importance of PLO participation in the Islamic summit scheduled to be held in Mecca in January. He said: The PLO is eager in principle to participate in the Islamic summit out of a sense of responsibility toward the conference.

He said: We look forward to the Islamic summit because it will discuss important issues, particularly the issue of Jerusalem. We hope that this summit will crystallize past efforts regarding the Jerusalem issue. We are certainly eager to participate in the Islamic summit and expect all the members of the Islamic Conference to participate in it.

Asked what effect the PLO's absence from the Amman summit will have on its relations with the states which attended the conference, Ad-Dajani said: I do not believe that our non-attendance of the Amman summit will have adverse affects on our relations with our brothers in the Arab world. We in the PLO earnestly seek to maintain our relations with all the Arab states. I am confident that the various parties--those which attended and those which did not--are aware of PLO's genuine attitude and realize the extent of the PLO's interest in strong Arab solidarity that unites the ranks.

Asked if the PLO will embark on an initiative to mend the rift [among the Arab states] and the results of the Amman summit [as published], Ad-Dajani said: It is rather difficult to talk about an initiative. I cannot give an opinion on this subject until the PLO has had the chance to study the matter.

But we can talk about making efforts in conjunction with other efforts. The PLO might take the first step in this direction. The whole matter, however, depends on a study of the situation and on choosing the best way to remedy it.

Regarding PLO participation in the summit of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front states which, reportedly, is to be held soon, Ad-Dajani said that the PLO is a member of the front and the PLO leadership will study carefully the proposal for convening the conference and will take a stand on the timing of the meeting.

DPFLP OFFICIAL CONDEMNS KING HUSAYN'S STAND ON PLO

JN031736 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Text] Damascus--Salih Ra'fat, member of the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DPFLP] Political Bureau and of the PLO Central Council, has stressed that King Husayn's stand on the Palestinian revolution and the Arabs' basic issue of Palestine was not surprising to the Palestinian revolution command.

In an interview with Damascus radio, the DPFLP Political Bureau member added: The Jordanian king's allegation that the PLO falls under the domination of some Arab parties is intended to put a wedge between the PLO and our Palestinian people in the occupied regions. By his false allegations the king also wanted to delude our Palestinian Arab people into believing that the PLO is not concerned with the Palestinian issue, due to its absence from the Amman summit. By blaring out these false allegations King Husayn also hopes to drive a wedge between fraternal Syria and the PLO, in an attempt to fabricate a dispute between them and to demonstrate to his masters in Washington and the Arab rulers who support the Camp David plot that the PLO is under hegemony, that it has no free will of its own and that he, King Husayn, with his regime, is the sole alternative representative of the Palestinian Arab people. All of this is an attempt to liquidate the Palestinian cause within the framework of the Camp David conspiratorial Camp David schemes. However, our Palestinian people in the occupied regions and our Jordanian-Syrian-Palestinian people realize that the Jordanian king is now preparing to follow the Camp David plot in order to liquidate the Palestinian cause and obliterate the Palestinian people's rights. Therefore, our Palestinian people have increased their support for and are rallying around the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

In reply to a question about the similarity between what traitorous As-Sadat trumpeted out when he was about to make peace with the Zionist enemy and what King Husayn and his information media are alleging these days, Salih Ra'fat said: As-Sadat blared out the same allegations King Husayn is now voicing, to the effect that the PLO is subjected to hegemony, so that he could justify to our Arab people the idea that he had the right to represent the Palestinian people. Thus, King Husayn is playing the same role, to justify his intent to speak on behalf of the Palestinians with President-elect Ronald Reagan. We in the DPFLP consider this to be flagrant interference in the PLO's internal affairs, because the PLO is the Palestinian Arab people's only legitimate representative.

Salih Ra'fat added: Our Palestinian people have a long history of confronting the policy of liquidation pursued by the Hashemite regime, which is still continuing its steps and moves, with its masters in America and the European countries, to restore the West Bank and to annex it to its shaky throne. These moves have recently been increased by the Jordanian regime's resubmission of the united Arab kingdom plan as a substitute for the independent Palestinian state, in the absence of the PLO.

These efforts were greatly welcomed by the Zionist enemy's leaders and were supported by Western moves. They also received support from U.S. President-elect Reagan, who announced his commitment to the Camp David accords and his readiness to increase U.S. support for the Zionist entity, in order to subjugate the entire Arab region and place it under American-Zionist influence.

Replying to a question about the attempts of King Husayn and the Jordanian regime to portray the dispute as if it is among the Jordanian, Palestinian and Syrian peoples, while everybody realizes that the battle is between the one Arab Jordanian-Syrian-Palestinian people on one hand and the Jordanian king, his regime and his suppressive organs on the other, Salih Ra'fat stressed that the dispute is between the Jordanian, Iraqi regimes and the reactionary Arab states and the progressive Arab powers. This dispute is not a struggle over borders but one involving political stands and the role of King Husayn and his regime, particularly since this regime is preparing to join the Camp David agreements and the U.S. settlement. Therefore, the struggle is for the national cause of Palestine.

Thus, fraternal Syria's role favors our Palestinian people, the PLO and the struggle against the Israeli occupation, and is against the Jordanian policy of tutelege, which is in harmony with the Zionist occupation policies, all of which are intended to liquidate the Palestinian cause. This policy is also intended to prevent our Palestinian people from taking their national rights, including their right to self-determination, without Jordanian trusteeship, and to establish their national independent state. Thus, this struggle is for the preservation of the right of our people, Syria and the steadfastness states to repulse and defeat the Camp David accords and to prevent any Arab party, particularly the Jordanian regime, from joining the Camp David march.

About the Jordanian and Iraqi regimes' harmony in attacking the PLO and the patriotic Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation, Salih Ra'fat said: The silence of the Iraqi regime over As-Sadat's treacherous visit to occupied Palestine and that of the Jordanian king to Oman immediately after As-Sadat's ill-omened visit proves the two regimes' approval of As-Sadat's treacherous policy. Therefore, the present harmony among the Hashemite regime of Jordan, the Iraqi regime and the rest of the reactionary Arab regimes is not new. The alliance of the Jordanian and Iraqi regimes is in complete accord with the current imperialist moves in the area to achieve support for the capitulatory Camp David accords.

There is no doubt that Syria and the PLO are the solid rock that has hindered the accomplishment of the objectives of the Hashemite regime and its overlords so far. This rock has also led the autonomy talks toward a deadend. It would be quite natural then to intensify and increase the onslaughts against Syria, the PLO and the members of the patriotic Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation, in order to crush Arab resistance. We are confident that our brave people in Iraq, Jordan and inside the occupied homeland are aware of the objectives of the Iraqi and Jordanian regimes' alliance, which is intended to liquidate the Arabs' supreme cause of Palestine.

Salih Ra'fat condemned the mad U.S. war that Saddam Husayn is waging against the Islamic revolution in Iran. He stressed that this war falls within the framework of the U.S.-Zionist plots against the area. Ra'fat also stressed the treaty of friendship and co-operation between the Syrian Arab Republic and the Soviet Union. In this regard Ra'fat asserted that this treaty will further bolster Arab power and will promote the efficient steadfastness of Syria and the PLO.

'ARAFAT CONGRATULATES SARKIS ON INDEPENDENCE DAY

NC261308 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1115 GMT 26 Nov 80

[Text] Brother commander Abu 'Ammar has sent a telegram to President Ilyas Sarkis on independence day. The following is the text of the telegram:

Your Excellency President Ilyas Sarkis, president of the Lebanese Republic: Your Excellency, Mr President, on my own behalf and on behalf of the Palestine Liberation Organization [PLO] Executive Committee, all the sons of our Palestinian people within our homeland, Palestine, and outside it; and the fighters and strugglers of our people who defend our people and our Arab nation as well as its interests, future and dignity and all the meanings of good, justice and righteousness; I convey to you my warmest congratulations and best wishes on independence day for fraternal Lebanon, which has extended support and backing to our people--a support which our people and our revolution will not forget after we achieve our definite victory and return to our homeland.

Your Excellency, Mr President: It pleases me to extend to you and to all the sons of the brotherly Lebanese people--through you in your capacity as the president of all Lebanon and as the symbol of Lebanon's legitimacy and of the unity of the Lebanese people and territory--our warmest congratulations. I wish you personally good health and all good and prosperity for the Lebanese people.

I take pleasure in reaffirming to you that we devote attention to Lebanon's safety and to the unity of its territory, people and institutions. I also desire to affirm to you that we view cherished Lebanon only as a passageway, not a place of settlement, for our people--a passageway to our dear homeland, Palestine, for which we will accept no substitute.

Your Excellency, Mr President, kindly accept our best wishes for you personally, for the Government of Lebanon and for the fraternal Lebanese people.

[signed] Your brother, Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces.

'ARAFAT SENDS TELEGRAM OF THANKS TO BREZHNEV

NC301814 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 30 Nov 80

["Text" of telegram sent by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to CPSU Secretary General Leonid Brezhnev in reply to his telegram on occasion of World Day of Solidarity with Palestinian people--date not given]

[Text] I received with extreme pleasure your comradely telegram in which you express your congratulations to and support for the Palestinian people and the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of this people, on the occasion of the World Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people.

I thank you and the comrades--the leaders of the party and the state of the Soviet peoples--for your warm support for our people's struggle. I and my brothers in the PLO Executive Committee consider it a great support for our people's struggle against Zionist aggression and the U.S. imperialist plots.

We particularly consider it as support against the tripartite Camp David plot, its resulting violation of the Palestinian legitimate rights and the tension it has created in the area because of the separate deals as well as the policy of brinkmanship and cold war which world imperialism, headed by the United States, is propagating and the resulting threat to world peace and security.

The Palestinian revolution and the Middle Eastern area in general are passing through a delicate political phase because the imperialist conspiracies are intensifying and the danger of the occurrence of an extensive Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon is growing in an attempt to strike the Palestinian revolution and to pass the capitulationist Camp David policies--a matter which calls on all the forces of freedom and progress in the Arab countries and the world to close their ranks, raise their vigilance and be ready to frustrate the conspiracies of imperialism and its agents.

We are confident that the friendly Soviet Union--under your brave leadership--together with the peoples of the socialist bloc and all the free men and honest people in the world will firmly stand at the side of our Palestinian and Arab masses and their struggling forces in confronting the savage imperialist-Zionist onslaught.

On my own behalf and on behalf of my brother members of the PLO Executive Committee, I wish you personally in your capacity as the Palestinian people's dear friend--whose stances, support and backing for our struggle are appreciated by us--good health and happiness and to the friendly Soviet people success and prosperity. I affirm our people's permanent pride for our friendship and strong relations for the sake of freedom, independence, social advance and peace in the Middle East. It is a revolution until victory.

PFLP OFFICIAL ATTACKS JORDANIAN GOVERNMENT

JN020713 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 2 Dec 80

[Text] Beirut--Bassam Abu Sharif, PFLP Political Bureau member, has asserted that the Jordanian regime is trying to obtain an Arab-Palestinian cover for its forthcoming talks with the new U.S. administration.

In a speech here yesterday Abu Sharif pointed out that the new U.S. administration has hinted at and made it a point that the Jordanian regime is best qualified to hold discussions and negotiations about the future of the occupied West Bank. He added that the Jordanian regime has sought such moral and political cover in order to start the negotiations about the future of the West Bank, based on U.S.-Jordanian ideas which are supposed to accomplish a political project complementing Camp David.

SAUDI ARABIA'ABDALLAH RETURNS FROM MEDIATION EFFORTS IN SYRIA

LD032338 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2030 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Text] Riyadh, 3 Dec (SPA)--Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the national guard, at 2000 returned to Riyadh from Damascus after a short visit to Syria. He was welcomed at the airport by Prince Salayman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, governor of Riyadh District, and other princes and officials.

Syrian Troop Withdrawal

LD041028 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0845 GMT 4 Dec 80

[Text] Riyadh, 4 Dec (SPA)--Second deputy premier and commander of the national guard, Prince Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, has announced that President Hafiz al-Asad has promised to gradually withdraw his forces from the Syrian-Jordanian border. Following his return from Damascus last night his highness said that the initiative of His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to contain the tension that has developed between the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic has been crowned with success, by the grace of God.

His highness said that in the Syrian president he found great understanding and a full response to the good offices of the kingdom. He welcomed the initiative and expressed his appreciation for His Majesty King Khalid's efforts, which are aimed at putting the supreme Arab interest first.

His highness also said that his visit to Jordan was also positive and that King Husayn of Jordan had expressed his appreciation for King Khalid's initiative and his full understanding of the dimensions of this initiative.

Concluding his statement his highness expressed pride and happiness over the success of his majesty's initiative and said: I thank God for granting us this success. He expressed the hope that the Arab nation will be spared all kinds of division and discord, adding that he will be reporting today to his majesty on the result of his visit to Syria and Jordan.

EDITORIAL ON STEADFASTNESS FRONT BOYCOTT OF SUMMIT

LD021653 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 29 Nov 80 p 1

[Editorial: "Why and In Whose Interest?"]

[Excerpts] Now that the 11th Arab summit in Amman has ended with the adoption of resolutions that represent a great achievement and, according to his highness the Amir of fraternal Kuwait, constitute a new turning point in joint Arab action during the coming phase, we have the right to ponder the big "question mark" that is being raised in the Arab countries and is greatly baffling the Arabs. This question is:

Why did the Arab Steadfastness Front states (Syria, Libya, Algeria, South Yemen, Lebanon and the PLO) boycott the Amman summit? Why did the attempts to cause the conference to be postponed reach the point of military pressure on Jordan through the concentration of enormous Syrian forces on Syria's southern border with Jordan? In whose interest were these attempts escalated to the point of boycott, military and political pressure, harsh press campaigns and rude accusations against the leaders who decided to participate in the Amman summit?

Arab citizens in every Arab arena, including the Syrian, Libyan, Algerian, South Yemeni, Lebanese and Palestinian arenas, have the right to know the frank answers to these important questions.

The stance adopted by the Steadfastness Front states of boycotting the Amman summit for reasons unknown to the Arab nation provoked different reactions among the broad sectors of the Arab masses. The most violent reaction was that which called on the Arab aid countries and indeed on all the states taking part in the Amman summit to openly decide to cut off their colossal financial aid to some of the states which confront Israel and boycotted the conference, as well as to the PLO, which, very regrettably, opted to deviate from the Arab consensus represented by the Amman summit and join the steadfastness states which boycotted the conference, regardless of the motives and covert and overt justifications of its stance. However, the Arab leaders at the Amman summit were noble and gracious in their Arab sentiments and thinking. They refused to be influenced by this reaction because its nature and possible consequences run counter to the commitments they have assumed regarding the PLO as the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, regardless of however many mistakes the PLO leadership makes, and regarding all the Arab states which confront Israel, even if any these states chose to boycott and adopt an openly hostile stance toward the Arab summit, whose fundamental aim is to bolster Arab confrontation and Arab steadfastness and to build up Arab strength in all fields in order to wage the fateful battle against the Israeli enemy.

We again raise the question: Why and in whose interest did the Steadfastness Front states boycott the Amman summit?

PETROMIN OFFICIAL ON MEDIA TREATMENT OF OIL PRICES

LDO31441 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 1 Dec 80 p 1

[Interview granted by Dr 'Abd al-Hadi Tahir, governor of the Saudi petroleum and minerals establishment, PETROMIN, to Yunis Muhammad Ishaq in Jidda--date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Do you believe that current oil prices are likely to increase in the near future?

[Answer] Current market oil prices are fluctuating; sometimes they are down and at other times they are up. This is due to some psychological factors in the oil market more than to factors genuinely related to supply and demand, particularly after Iraq and Iran resumed partial exportation of their oil. Therefore the situation has become less acute with regard to supply and demand. As for prices in the long term, it will be a different matter, particularly if supply does not match demand, in which case prices are bound to go up. This is an economic fact dictated by market conditions. In the short term I see no economic factors justifying a price hike.

[Question] The Western news media are ever inclined to blame oil prices for most of the Third World's problems, particularly the balance of payments deficits, and constantly focus on the negative aspects of oil prices without mentioning any of the positive factors from which a large number of Third World countries have benefited. What is your comment?

[Answer] The Western press and some Western politicians find it easy to blame the oil-producing countries for generating inflation and unemployment in their countries.
[paragraph continues]

But economists and specialists in oil economics, and oil experts in general, know for a fact that oil price increases have had very positive aspects--whether with regard to the industrialized states or the producing countries, and even to the developing countries as well--because they curb the consumption of a nonrenewable resource and, moreover, they promote the development of alternate forms of energy.

All that's happening here is that some politicians somehow find it easy to blame others for their failed policies. The developing countries themselves have stood and still stand on the side of the developing oil-producing countries at all the conferences. The reason for this is that the oil countries offer aid to the Third World countries several times greater than that offered by the industrialized countries. Therefore there is nothing to be afraid of in the Western press. What is required of the Arab news media and the OPEC countries' news media is that they explain these matters and show how much the OPEC countries contribute to the development and progress of the Third World countries.

PDRY

YAR VICE PRESIDENT ARRIVES FOR CELEBRATIONS

LD301648 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 29 Nov 80 EA

[Excerpts] Qadi 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi, vice president of the republic and speaker of the Peoples Constituent Assembly, arrived at Aden airport at 1600 this afternoon to participate in the celebrations of our people in the southern part of the homeland of the 13th independence anniversary on behalf of brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces.

Qadi al-'Arashi said in a press statement on his arrival: Our arrival in our dear southern part to participate in the celebrations marking the 13th anniversary of its independence is a genuine expression of the sincerity of the two parts in their firm wish to forge ahead along the road of unity and integration in various spheres of life. The vice president of the republic added: I will convey to Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad warmest congratulations and best wishes from his brother, the leader-president, Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, who has been compelled to travel abroad for treatment, as well as his greetings and best wishes to all the brother sons of the southern part of the homeland. He said: I take the opportunity of participating in the celebrations to acquaint myself with the landmarks of development and progress achieved in this dear part of the homeland and to assure our brothers that we will make even greater efforts to overcome every obstacle on the path leading to the restoration of the unity of the two parts within a framework which will serve the interests of the homeland and all the sons of Yemen. At the end of his statement he prayed to God for the return to the occasion of our single Yemeni people under the aegis of the unity to which they aspire.

The brother vice president of the republic and speaker of the Peoples Constituent Assembly left San'a' international airport for Aden this afternoon. Just before leaving he made a statement to the SABA NEWS AGENCY, saying: The brother leader-president, Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, has asked me to represent him in participating in the celebrations being held in the southern part of the homeland marking the 13th anniversary of its independence. This is a confirmation of the ties of brotherhood and sincerity in wishing to forge ahead along the road towards restoring unity between the two parts of the Yemeni homeland in the service of the wishes and aspirations of the single Yemeni people.

He said: A number of senior civil officials and military officers are accompanying me by virtue of the special regard this blessed occasion enjoys on the part of the president, government and people of the northern part. He concluded his statement saying: We shall have the opportunity of acquainting ourselves with the progress made by our brothers in the southern part of the homeland along the road of development and progress.

PAPER HITS U.S. 'BLATANT INTERFERENCE' IN MIDEAST

LD031657 Aden ATH-THAWRI in Arabic 22 Nov 80 p 5

[Abdallah Salim article: "Required: Rapid Answer to 'Rapid Deployment'"]

[Text] Since the mid-seventies the United States has constantly escalated its military and espionage activities in the Middle East and the Gulf. Although this is not to say that such activity did not exist before, the fact is that it has doubled at this particular time and has taken a more pronounced and audacious form, going as far as open interference in the affairs of countries in the area. It has also gone as far as trying to force these countries into the gambit of imperialist policies and imposing hegemony on them. These activities have been stepped up with the attempts to set up aggressive alliances under the slogan of security for the Gulf and the Red Sea and the threats to occupy the oilfields. U.S. impudence has reached a level that is no longer tolerable with the formation of the so-called Rapid Deployment Forces and the actual dispatch of these forces' vanguards to the area, backed by naval units and radar (AWACS) aircraft, which in practice are a branch of the Pentagon in the area.

The collapse of the aggressive CENTRO alliance and the departure of Iran--its principal power--from the U.S. sphere following the downfall of the shah's empire has undoubtedly upset the balance of power in the area. Reliance on agents acting on behalf of imperialism to achieve some of its strategic objectives turns out to be no longer useful in the new conditions, characterized by the realization by the peoples of the area of the danger of the U.S. plan. The Camp David agreement, which is hostile to the Arab people's interest, has contributed to intensifying U.S. imperialism's efforts in another area that is no less sensitive--namely the Gulf area, which U.S. imperialism has considered a "vacuum" area since the departure of the British colonialists. In other words the new imperialist policy of "filling the vacuum" has reached or is about to reach its objective. And with tightening military control of the area the imperialists believe that they have achieved their colonialist dreams.

In the din of the noise caused by the imperialist saber-rattling the question emerges: Who is giving the imperialists all these facilities and why? Are some people so afraid as to import all this strength?

Some of the countries of the area which show common sense in their thinking have refuted the U.S. imperialist allegations about the need to protect the oil routes and resources from "Soviet intervention." A short time ago the Kuwaiti foreign minister said that his government does not see any Soviet threat and asserted that his country and the Gulf countries do not need foreign protection and that the danger to the peoples of the area is an American danger. Also, the Kuwaiti newspaper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM said in an editorial that the real threat to the security of the area lies in the U.S. military moves and threats, pointing out that there are no similar movements on the Soviet side. These realistic stands are compatible with the logic of peace and the call by the peoples of the area and of the nonaligned countries for the Indian Ocean to be kept an area of peace and stability. But the United States and NATO countries disregard this peaceful call, which the world community has approved.

The recent developments and the movements on the Gulf and Indian Ocean coasts show that the imperialists are going ahead and fanning the flames of wars that would enable them to create justifications and excuses for their blatant interference.

In view of this persistence by U.S. imperialism and its allies, the peoples of the area, their countries and nationalist forces caring for security and stability find themselves faced with a U.S. colonialist plan, and it is urgently necessary for them to act and do something to stop this interference, curb imperialism, and preserve peace and stability in the area.

YAR

VICE PRESIDENT RETURNS FROM ADEN, COMMENTS

JN011505 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 1 Dec 80

[Excerpts] 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi, vice president of the republic and speaker of the People's Constituent Assembly, returned to San'a' this morning after having participated in the celebrations of our people in the southern part of the homeland of the 13th independence anniversary.

In a statement to the SABA' NEWS AGENCY, 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi said: Our visit was very successful. We conveyed the regards and best wishes of brother president Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to his brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad who, in turn, requested us to convey his regards and best wishes to the brother president [words indistinct].

The vice president added: We exchanged viewpoints on several [word indistinct], Arab and international issues and stressed the importance of meetings [words indistinct] within the framework of cooperation between the two parts to achieve the people's aspirations, which would in turn be an effective factor [words indistinct] reunifying the two parts of Yemen [word indistinct].

The vice president left Aden [words indistinct]. He was accorded a big official and popular sendoff. Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers in the southern part of the homeland, led those who saw the vice president off.

In a statement to the [word indistinct] news agency, he said: As we leave Aden, we would like to express our happiness over the warm reception accorded us and the fraternal atmosphere which prevailed during the visit. We were extremely moved by all the development and creativity which we witnessed and felt in the various walks of life and the will and determination of our brothers in the southern part of the homeland, particularly Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, to overcome obstacles and achieve all the people's aspirations for progress and development. Indeed, the popular will makes it incumbent on the two leaderships in the two parts of the homeland to shoulder common responsibility in order to achieve the aspired for goal: reuniting the Yemeni people and land, which would lead to stability, cooperation and progress not only for a united Yemen, but also for all our friends from the sons of the Arab and Islamic nation [words indistinct] struggle against all its enemies.

GHALI, SHAMIR TO DISCUSS STEPPED-UP NORMALIZATION

NC032011 Paris AFP in English 1943 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Report by Daniele Eyquem]

[Text] Paris, 3 Dec (AFP)--A stepped-up normalization of bilateral relations between Egypt and Israel will be the only subject of talks here tomorrow between Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Egyptian Foreign Minister [title as received] Butrus Ghali, according to Mr. Ghali.

The Egyptian official told newsmen today that the conversation would be unrelated to the stalled tripartite negotiations between Cairo, Jerusalem and Washington on Palestinian administrative autonomy in Israeli-occupied Arab territories.

No useful exchanges on that subject could take place, he suggested, prior to the take-over of the new administration in the American capital next January 20.

"While the negotiations on the future of Palestine are stalled," Mr. Ghali declared, "we believe it is important to maintain the dynamics of peace between Tel Aviv and Cairo and accelerate normalization between the two countries."

Mr. Shamir in another conversation with reporters expressed his conviction that ultimately, other Arab nations besides Egypt would join in the Camp David negotiating process for which, he said there existed no alternative.

The Israeli official suggested that this process could eventually lead to a possibility for the population of the occupied territories to express themselves "democratically."

Mr. Shamir added that while Israel continued to exclude any negotiation with the Palestine Liberation Organization, discussions might be acceptable with someone expressing its viewpoint provided he had been duly elected in such a vote.

The Egyptian deputy foreign minister was scheduled later today to confer with French Foreign Minister Jean Francois-Poncet. Mr. Shamir, who is to meet French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing tomorrow, saw the French minister last Sunday.

The focus of all these exchanges reportedly was, and will be, the European Community's recommendations on the Middle East as formulated once more at a summit in Luxembourg this week stipulating Israel's evacuation of occupied lands, guaranteed security for its borders and self-determination for the Palestinians and Jerusalem.

Mr. Shamir's comment was that "Israel's security can never be ensured by anyone except the Israelis themselves, and not by international guaranties, wherever they may come from."

GHALI SUPPORTS EEC SUMMIT MIDEAST STATEMENT

NC040745 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 4 Dec 80

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has welcomed the EEC summit statement. He described the statement as extremely positive, and said that it will help solve the Palestinian problem and that it demonstrates once again Europe's interest in the Middle East problem.

After meeting French Foreign Minister Jean Francois-Poncet, Ghali said that the EEC summit statement is in keeping with Egyptian policy. He said that he and Francois-Poncet discussed the latest developments in the European initiative, Egypt's efforts to solve the Palestinian problem and African problems, particularly the Chadian problem.

TEXT OF AS-SADAT INTERVIEW IN 24 NOV DER SPIEGEL

DW251025 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 24 Nov 80 pp 167-185

[Undated interview by SPIEGEL editors Dieter Wild, Johannes K. Engel and correspondent Volkhard Windfuhr with Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat at the Giseh Palace in Cairo]

[Text] SPIEGEL: Mr President, the terrible nightmare of the West has become reality: war on the oilfields, burning refineries and oil pipelines. Fleets of the two superpowers have assembled at the Persian Gulf, confrontation seems possible at any moment. How serious is the situation, what do you think?

As-Sadat: Believe me, I predicted this years ago, when the Soviets sent the Cubans to Angola. I said at that time that it would not be limited to Angola and that the Soviets would spread toward the north. And this happened. For the first time Russia has sent soldiers and generals to countries outside its security belt.

SPIEGEL: But the war between Iran and Iraq was not touched off by the Soviets, or would you say it was?

As-Sadat: No, not at all. This war was touched off by both adversaries in that war or by Saddam Husayn of Iraq. But that was possible only because the Soviets were exploiting the defensive attitude of the Americans. If we look at the map we will see that the new security belt of the Soviet Union begins in Afghanistan and reaches via Iran, South Yemen and Ethiopia to Libya.

SPIEGEL: Do you mean that this security belt of the Soviets includes Iran in addition to Afghanistan?

As-Sadat: No, Afghanistan belongs to it. Iran is a gift of God for them. They did not expect that war, they are the only ones to profit from it in that region. Whatever happens they will profit from it.

SPIEGEL: Do you fear that the current conflict will involve the whole Gulf area and that you as well as the superpowers might become involved?

As-Sadat: I have been warning since the first day of war between Iran and Iraq: For heaven's sake, let us try to limit the conflict to these two countries, and let it not become a reason for closing the Strait of Hormuz, because that would mean a collapse of Western civilization.

SPIEGEL: And you say that because you...

As-Sadat: ...Because I am interested in Western civilization. I want to build up my country, my colleagues from the Gulf want to sell their oil and also build up their countries. So we have common interests. I say therefore: For God's sake let us limit the new war to the two adversaries. There should be a power present telling them: You must fight it out between yourselves until you will have eventually destroyed yourselves, but you must know that we will not permit this or that.

SPIEGEL: Even if such a power were present, the danger still exists.

As-Sadat: It is a grave danger because all of Saudi Arabia's oil installations and the oil wells are located on the Gulf. The population consists partly of Shi'ites, followers of Khomeyni, and not of Sunnis like the Saudi Arabians. So a danger threatens from there as well. What would happen if an attack were launched tomorrow on the oil fields? Only one plane would be needed to drop one or two bombs on the pipelines located on the ground. I have seen them in Saudi Arabia. I fear, therefore, that the whole thing could erupt and become a bigger conflict.

SPIEGEL: What would you do about it?

As-Sadat: I state my readiness to make supply installations in my country available to the United States to permit it to reach Saudi Arabia and every Gulf state wishing or needing U.S. assistance.

I told the West Europeans: You are threatened together with America, and I am prepared to make installations available to you, too, to reach the Gulf and protect your interests there, because I have the same interests.

SPIEGEL: You know as a military expert that the United States has not developed to that extent yet and that its Rapid Deployment Force is still being set.

As-Sadat: This is exactly why I have clearly stated, without having been urged by any side, that I would make these supply installations available here in Egypt. If you look at the map you will realize that coming from the Red Sea one only needs to cross Saudi Arabia to reach the Gulf.

SPIEGEL: Would you consider dispatching Egyptian troops as well to keep attackers off the oilfields?

As-Sadat: Let me tell you one thing, whenever an Arab country asks for help, I will give it.

SPIEGEL: To every Arab country? To Saudi Arabia as well as the Emirates or even Iraq?

As-Sadat: Not as long as Iraq acts as an aggressor. I do not stand on the side of the aggressors. It is a fact that Iraq is an Arab country, but it is also a fact that Iran is a Muslim country and that Egypt is the leader of Muslim as well as Arab states. So everything is within our responsibility. I have stated that.

SPIEGEL: What do you think the motive was that led Iraqi chief of state Saddam Husayn to attack Iran? Did he merely want to reconquer lost area at Shatt al-Arab, or did he want to build up his image as the leading statesman of the region through this enterprise?

As-Sadat: Both. Once Khomeyni had destroyed and humiliated the Iranian Army, Saddam Husayn thought this would be the moment for first, winning back the land he had to leave to the shah, and second, for making himself the ruler of the Gulf and the leader of the whole Middle Eastern region, the policeman and uncontested leader who would be the heir of the shah and of Egypt.

SPIEGEL: You are the only Arab leader who ever launched a successful surprise attack against the Israelis. How do you explain the fact that something must have obviously gone wrong with the Iraqi attack? The Iraqi offensive is not making any headway.

As-Sadat: Even the planning of the operation was 100 percent wrong.

SPIEGEL: You have analyzed it?

As-Sadat: Yes.

SPIEGEL: What conclusions have you arrived at?

As-Sadat: Saddam Husayn thought the Iranian Army no longer existed after all Khomeyni had done to it. That is a fact because most of Iran's Air Force pilots were in jail. The tank forces, for example, are of British origin and have no spare parts. Saddam Husayn's calculation turned out to be wrong because he could not win the war in 1 week as he thought.

SPIEGEL: Really in just 1 week?

As-Sadat: Yes. He thought he could bring about Khomeyni's fall. He assumed the army would take over. He never expected such resistance on Khomeyni's part.

SPIEGEL: But when he realized his error, why did not he move all his 13 divisions to the Iranian front?

As-Sadat: It is very easy to begin a war, but thereafter it is very difficult to keep control of further developments. Saddam Husayn did not think his war through, whereas in 1973 I had thought through every possibility--such as hard resistance and the loss of thousands of soldiers in crossing the canal, as well as keeping the option open for a cease-fire and keeping the whole operation under control.

SPIEGEL: Saddam Husayn is not a strategist.

As-Sadat: Saddam Husayn is not a soldier, and he was misled. He was told that he could bring about a decision in the matter. And in line with the mentality of the Arab world--fortunately not of the Egyptians--the Iraqis bury their heads in the sand like the ostrich, instead of ironing out their mistakes. Saddam Husayn realizes now that he is bogged down in a mess he will not get out of for many years.

SPIEGEL: How will it all end, what do you think?

As-Sadat: Saddam Husayn will not agree to a withdrawal, and he will not be prepared to limit his losses, something the Americans did in their operation to save the Iran hostages.

SPIEGEL: So the war will go on as a war of attrition?

As-Sadat: I predicted that 4 weeks ago. No side will win this war, they will carry on until they will eventually have destroyed each other. But Saddam Husayn has touched off something much more dangerous than war: The feeling of hatred between the two peoples of Iraq and Iran. That will last for centuries to come.

SPIEGEL: And the balance? The whole fragile structure of the Middle East is now endangered.

As-Sadat: Absolutely. What would the situation look like if the Iranians in a moment of despair were to ask the Soviet Union for help?

SPIEGEL: Do you expect that?

As-Sadat: Why not? The Iranians turned out to be irresponsible in their own country. If I were in their position, I would have immediately sent the hostages home, demanding spare parts for my war machinery. They could have decided the whole conflict in 3 days to their advantage had they had the old striking strength of the Iranian Armed Forces.

But they need more than just ammunition and spare parts. They need morale. Pilots refused to fly. So their families were put in [jail] and the pilots told: Either you fly and bomb Iraq, or we will kill your families.

SPIEGEL: But the Soviets cannot provide them with morale either.

As-Sadat: That is right. But that is also one of the great weaknesses on Saddam Husayn's side. He thought he could overthrow Khomeyni, but instead everybody rallied around Khomeyni after the invasion because Iranian national pride is involved: The Iraqis have invaded their sacred land.

SPIEGEL: An interesting line of thought exists in connection with the hostage problem: If the hostages were set free, the Americans would be committed as a result of their agreement to supply the spare parts and ammunition ordered and paid for by the Iranians prior to the taking of hostages. That would give the Iranians advantage over the Iraqis, and it would eventually lead to an Iraqi defeat. Then the Russians, who still have a friendship agreement with Iraq would have to come to the latter's aid.

As-Sadat: These considerations presuppose that Khomeyni would be prepared to give the old striking force back to the Iranian Army. But he is afraid to do that. Therefore he mobilizes younger generations, instead of the old armed forces which would have won the war long ago.

SPIEGEL: You mean that he is afraid to give the old power back to the army because it could then eliminate him?

As-Sadat: Not could but would, because he has hurt its honor and pride. The same happened in Pakistan. Bhutto was hanged by the army after having humiliated it. He was a good friend of mine and I told him at that time: Bhutto, for God's sake, do not humiliate your army. That was after the 1971 defeat. But he did it anyway.

SPIEGEL: So you believe that the action against the army was Khomeyni's greatest mistake?

As-Sadat: Yes, right up to this day. Now he can choose between two dangers: Putting the army back in its old role, which would certainly lead to his deprivation of power once the army had thrown back the Iraqis, or the other danger is asking the Russians for help. He will make the choice that will keep him in power. The Russians will be very happy to help him and to establish widespread chaos--in the entire Gulf region, not only in Iran.

SPIEGEL: Mr President, you have warned against Syria becoming "the next Afghanistan." Do you expect the Russians to invade Syria?

As-Sadat: The Russians always insisted that Syria's Al-Asad sign a treaty with them, and he always rejected that because he dreamt of taking over the leadership role in the Arab world.

SPIEGEL: Just like Saddam Husayn today.

As-Sadat: Like Saddam Hysayn who made the same mistake and who is now following in Al-Asad's footsteps. What he is doing vis-a-vis Iran has been done by Al-Asad in Lebanon. Now he is bogged down in the mess. He cannot win and he cannot get his troops out unharmed; he cannot do anything.

SPIEGEL: Would a Soviet military intervention be possible at all in Syria?

As-Sadat: First of all they must realize that the Soviets lost everything in the Arab world when I ousted the 17,000 Soviet experts in 1972 in 1 week from my country. We were the ones who brought them to the Arab region, 'Abd an-Nasir and I.

So they have tried to gain new access. They were successful in Iraq and were able to sign a treaty. They did not succeed in doing that with us. As I told you, Al-Asad dreams of taking over a leadership role. He refuses to sign a treaty because then he would be exposed to attacks as a protégé of the Soviets.

SPIEGEL: After long hesitation Al-Asad recently signed the treaty with Moscow after all. Why?

As-Sadat: Al-Asad is endangering himself. He is risking his neck. He, his brother and the whole Alawite sect are concerned about their survival. They have been engaged in civil war for 2 years, and they state quite officially every day: We have killed eight people, or we have killed nine people. When Al-Asad realized that it was a matter of life or death for him as well as for his brother and his sect, he flew to the USSR and signed.

SPIEGEL: Do you expect this agreement to safeguard Al-Asad's survival?

As-Sadat: No, not at all, never. Al-Asad told me that he is supported by merely 2 percent of the Syrians.

SPIEGEL: He said that himself to you?

As-Sadat: He himself, and that is absolutely correct. Most likely it is even less than that. So more than 98 percent of the Syrians are against him: Sunnites, Shi'ites, Christians, the whole populace. How can the Russians defend such a regime? Have you not heard about the murder of Russian advisers? They were killed exactly like the Alawite followers of Al-Asad.

SPIEGEL: How much time do you give him?

As-Sadat: I cannot say. I think 1981 will bring the end.

SPIEGEL: And when you warned against Syria becoming a new Afghanistan, did you mean that the Soviets would invade Syria to support Al-Asad, just as they went to Kabul to support Karmal?

As-Sadat: Exactly. To save his neck. This is the only reason he signed.

SPIEGEL: But they would have to invade with troops.

As-Sadat: They have their advisers there. There are 10,000 men there already.

SPIEGEL: One does not see Russians travelling through Syria.

As-Sadat: They stay in the installations of the Syrian Armed Forces. During the October war some 3,000 Soviet advisors were stationed in Syria. But one did not see them.

SPIEGEL: Would they really dare invade Syria in view of their critical situation in Afghanistan and the crisis in Poland which endanger the foundations of their political system?

As-Sadat: You know, Poland is a gift of God for you. If you want to have my advice, I would say: Keep a cool head because every Afghan is a born fighter. The Afghans fought the British empire for 150 years and they never accepted defeat. Keep a cool head because something is cooking in Poland.

SPIEGEL: Your defense minister announced in February that Afghan freedom fighters are being trained here in Egypt and then channelled back to Afghanistan. Is this training program being continued?

As-Sadat: We are prepared to train men and to send arms. We are prepared to do everything for the Afghans and we have already done something.

SPIEGEL: Do the Afghan freedom fighters return from here with arms to their combat area?

As-Sadat: They get our arms, don't ask me how.

SPIEGEL: Mr President, people who are close to you say that you have developed a vehement anti-Soviet attitude. Are you not running the risk of overrating the strategic aims of the Soviets in the Gulf area, the Middle East and the world in general?

As-Sadat: Not at all. Some people who hate me have accused me of such an attitude. No, I do not overly dramatize the aims of the Soviets. I have dealt with them, just two people of this country did, 'Abd an-Nasir and I. You can read in the February 1972 protocols of parliament how I defended the Soviet Union, to a degree suggesting to every official that he resign if he did not want to cooperate with me along this line.

SPIEGEL: And why did you so totally change your approach?

As-Sadat: I was deeply disappointed by what I experienced. The decision to oust the Soviet experts from the country was made because they treated not only me but also 'Abd an-Nasir badly.

On 10 August 1967, just 2 months after our glorious defeat--you remember, we were greatly humiliated--'Abd an-Nasir received Yugoslav chief of state Tito. He came and expressed his sympathy.

SPIEGEL: What did 'Abd an-Nasir tell Tito?

As-Sadat: He told him here in Alexandria: Please go to the Soviet Union and tell the Kremlin leaders that I will never tolerate their action and that I would prefer to leave my country to anybody, including the Americans, rather than to accept such treatment.

Another example: Allen Dulles, chief of the American intelligence service CIA, considered me Soviet agent number one. Dulles gave the complete dossier on this agent to King Husayn when he visited the United States in January 1957. King Saud passed it on to Abd an-Nasir. Abd an-Nasir laughed and sent the dossier to me.

SPIEGEL: Recently you have again taken up a position against what you call Soviet penetration in the Middle East. You said the Soviet Union was advancing "step by step and bit by bit," adding that "we should not permit that." A new political concept was called for. What do you have in mind? What should the United States do, for example?

As-Sadat: Pursue a hard policy. Whenever the United States sits down at the negotiating table with the Soviet Union, the actions of the Soviet Union in Afghanistan and other places should also be placed on the negotiating table.

SPIEGEL: The famous "linkage," as Henry Kissinger called it.

As-Sadat: Linkage, that is right.

SPIEGEL: Ronald Reagan said he would return to that kind of policy.

As-Sadat: I have read that.

SPIEGEL: So you expect a change of U.S. policy under the new president?

As-Sadat: Even if Carter had been reelected, he, too, would have pursued a "hardline policy."

SPIEGEL: Why do you think so?

As-Sadat: Because nothing else is possible if the United States wants to remain responsible as the superpower number one for the preservation of peace, and if we want to end this state of terrorism and irresponsible action in the world, where one tries to humiliate the other.

SPIEGEL: That would mean returning to the policy of containment and confrontation of the John Foster Dulles era.

As-Sadat: That would be a great mistake. Let me tell you an episode in this connection: Last April I was visiting the U.S. Congressional Foreign Relations Committee. One of my friends, a congressman, asked me in a confidential talk: President As-Sadat, would you let us have a base?

SPIEGEL: What did you reply?

As-Sadat: I told him: "No. I will give you logistics facilities without limitation. But bases spell hate. And why should we attract hate to us, to you, and to me?" And moreover: "You know, if Dulles or President Johnson had asked me that question my answer would have been: Go to hell!"

But I will make logistics facilities available to you so that you will be able to reach any Arab or any Muslim country. This means: from here to Indonesia.

SPIEGEL: Logistics facilities as the starting points for specific actions?

As-Sadat: For specific actions. For instance, for the liberation of the hostages, for accommodating here in Cairo a squadron of U.S. Phantom fighters. They were here for 80 days, carried out training exercises with my pilots and then returned to the United States.

SPIEGEL: What do you expect of the new U.S. Government?

As-Sadat: If Reagan should ever think of returning to the old guidelines of the policies of Dulles or Johnson the United States will lose everything because it will lose the affection of its friends. This was a policy which all of us condemned.

I would like Reagan to tell the Soviet Union this: Everything needs to be viewed as inter-related--Afghanistan, wheat, foodstuffs, economic aid, just everything. But I do not want Reagan talking to us like Dulles did. To the latter everything was either black or white, just like for the Kremlin. Either you were a friend of the Americans or an agent of the enemy.

We must face each other as equals. On my own I offered my logistics facilities for the attempt to save the hostages, without having been asked to do so. When the attempt failed I said: If I were in Carter's shoes I would repeat the attempt 10 times. I would also be prepared to make my logistics facilities available again.

SPIEGEL: Would you also advise Ronald Reagan to repeat the rescue action, if necessary by force of arms?

As-Sadat: The United States should now behave toward Iran in exactly the same manner in which it should behave toward the Soviet Union, namely refraining from narrowing its angle of vision to the hostage issue. This was one of the mistakes of my friend Carter: He neglected everything else over the hostage issue. Each year thousands of people are killed in traffic accidents in the United States, not just a mere 52. He should preferably have pursued a very hard policy.

For this reason I was quite unhappy to hear that Reagan said: If anything happens to the hostages then you in Iran are responsible. It is, after all, necessary to view everything as interrelated. I am not calling this a policy of hardness, but a policy of firmness.

SPIEGEL: You called President Carter "friend and brother Jimmy"...

As-Sadat: That is true.

SPIEGEL: But he was voted out of office by the American people. The new president, Reagan, is not considered as much an advocate of the Arab cause as Carter was, but rather is in favor of supporting Israel. Are you anticipating a change in your relations with the United States?

As-Sadat: To begin with, Egypt's relations with the United States are strategic relations. What matters is not tactical maneuvers, and I think that the United States and we, as friends, have reached the "point of no return," that we have harmony in both our thinking and our objectives. I do not want to say any more about it before I have met this man Reagan.

SPIEGEL: Perhaps you will also call him "brother Ronald" some day.

As-Sadat: Let us hope so, for I believe in brotherhood all over the world.

SPIEGEL: Mr President, 19 November was the third anniversary of your dramatic trip to Jerusalem which will go down in history as an historic event. Since it ultimately led to the agreement at Camp David, you and Begin were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Today the road toward peace on which you embarked at the time seems to be blocked. Do you still believe that your partner deserves the Nobel Peace Prize in view of the policy which Israel has been pursuing in the past several months?

As-Sadat: I do not want to decide your question for the simple reason that the situation prior to the Camp David agreement was much gloomier than it is today.

SPIEGEL: But did Begin's stubbornness not cross up all your efforts to achieve final success? He has declared east Jerusalem part of the "eternal capital" of Israel. He continues to adamantly pursue his Jewish settlement policy in territories which he calls Samaria and Judea which the Arabs, however, regard as the homeland of the Palestinian people.

As-Sadat: I do not care at all to pick out secondary problems. And you might be surprised if I tell you that the Jerusalem law is a secondary problem as well.

SPIEGEL: Really?

As-Sadat: The main problem is what I told Begin: "Menahem, prepare to sit down with me like at Camp David and to give political directives to our ministers. We will come to terms on full autonomy within a few hours if we issue the political directive jointly." But so far he has not been prepared to do it.

SPIEGEL: Why do you think he does that, why has he declared Jerusalem the "eternal capital" of Israel, and why does he continue to pursue his settlement policy?

As-Sadat: Once more: I do not wish to discuss any side problems.

SPIEGEL: Do you believe that they can be solved?

As-Sadat: I told you before that prior to the Camp David meeting we found ourselves in a similar situation and reached accord despite the fact that of the 12 days in Camp David, Begin was as adamant as he is today for 11 of those days. On 11 out of 12 days, mind you.

SPIEGEL: Elections are upcoming in Israel next year, and you may well be finding yourself facing a new prime minister, possibly the leader of the Labor Party, Shim'on Peres. To go by your latest talks with him and the leadership of the Israeli Labor Party, do you believe that this party would effect a change in the political course in Israel which would facilitate a solution?

As-Sadat: I did not discuss this with Shim'on. He is a friend, and whenever he comes to Egypt I will surely see him, and we will discuss all problems at issue. But just like Shim'on Peres, Begin has been my friend to this day.

SPIEGEL: But the core of each peace settlement is the autonomy....

As-Sadat: ...The Palestinian issue.

SPIEGEL: How do you propose to solve this one, and within which period?

As-Sadat: In two phases. The first: We intend to agree that the Jordanian West Bank and Gaza be given full autonomy. The second phase marks the beginning of a 5-year period of transition in which the autonomy agreement will be applied to Gaza and Jerusalem. Then a statement will be made to King Husayn so that he will go along with the Jordanian West Bank. Gaza and Jerusalem should provide the model.

The third phase will begin after 3 years of the period of transition, then we will sit down together again: the United States, Egypt and Israel, the elected representation of the autonomous area, that is, the Palestinians, and King Husayn.

These five will then decide on the destiny of the Palestinians in their presence, not behind their backs. At Camp David we conceded a veto to them to block any decision which they did not like.

SPIEGEL: Suppose the Palestinians reject the autonomy settlement on which you come to terms? Then what?

As-Sadat: No politician can make such a prediction or discuss such a step. There will be changes already in the first phase, just as there will be in the second and third phases. Many changes take place daily, every moment.

SPIEGEL: Do you expect the Palestinians to approve what you are mapping out?

As-Sadat: I would like to ease my conscience and explain this: What we have here is a peace process which proceeds in a specific manner. Then we can leave it up to the Palestinians to either approve or disapprove.

SPIEGEL: Some people in the West already wonder: If the Palestinians do not agree with the efforts so persistently made by As-Sadat toward solving the Palestinian issue, he might say: "I have done my best, I failed to find a solution of which they approve. Hence I shall simply confine myself to pursuing direct, bilateral foreign policy between Egypt and Israel." Would you do that?

As-Sadat: Wrong, wrong, wrong.

SPIEGEL: Wrong, why?

As-Sadat: Wrong, because Egypt, and I told you that before, is the leader of the Muslim and Arab worlds. We will not betray our historical leadership role, and we are Arabs. We differ from other Arabs, this is a fact. Yet we are Arabs nevertheless, and we are for a comprehensive settlement, not...

SPIEGEL: ...Not for one that will be just temporary?

As-Sadat: ...Not for a state treaty between Egypt and Israel which we have already attained. I have my country back. The last phase of the Israeli pullout from Sinai will be concluded a year and a half from now, in April 1982.

SPIEGEL: What will happen then?

As-Sadat: Then there will no longer be any demands between myself and Israel and Palestinians, especially not at this moment when I see that we are close to peace and that they are not really against it but just afraid.

SPIEGEL: Afraid?

As-Sadat: Yes, afraid, thus I am very much interested in assuming that responsibility.

SPIEGEL: You take this as a sort of historical mission?

As-Sadat: This is correct.

SPIEGEL: Had you known at that particular moment that not a single one of your Arab brothers would follow you step, would you have flown to Jerusalem nevertheless?

As-Sadat: I was aware from the outset that nobody would give me their open approval, that I ventured my trip against the entire Arab world.

SPIEGEL: How do you explain the fact that other Arabs do not act as you do? What is the cause of this different attitude?

As-Sadat: There are many things, but it is a fact that we Egyptians differ from the entire Arab world.

SPIEGEL: In what way?

As-Sadat: In every respect. The Bedouin character has been predominant in the Arab world to this day. But we here have a civilized nation with a 7,000-year history, the first civilization in the world, the first government, the first form of government and a great heritage.

(The noise of a helicopter landing interrupts the interview) As-Sadat: It is landing because I am going on vacation. I am very exhausted. I have been working since September without a pause and have had the flu besides.

SPIEGEL: Your peace with Israel and the war between Iraq and Iran have destroyed the front of Arab unity. There is a quarrel between Al-Qadhdhafi and yourself, between Al-Qadhdhafi and Husayn, between Saddam Husayn and Al-Asad. War is raging between Iraq and Iran. Morocco and Algeria are fighting over the Western Sahara. If you take a look at this scene, can you still believe in the slogans about Arab unity and solidarity?

As-Sadat: You should answer this question yourself, for even before the Arab world severed relations with me I had said: "You are not isolating Egypt but yourselves. Without Egypt you simply cannot do anything at all. Egypt, meanwhile, can do anything without you."

I believe that this has turned out to be true. But this is not all. Iraq has severed relations with Syria and with Libya. Saudi Arabia severs relations with Libya. Then there is the war between Iraq and Iran. The Gulf states are hiding out of fear since the Iranians have told them: If you give the Iraqis any help we will strike. They are scared to death.

I predicted all this. And I also predicted that they would be split apart even more. Do you know what the only thing is that has been achieved? The treaty between Syria and the Soviet Union.

SPIEGEL: Your country and Saudi Arabia were the pillars of stability in the Middle East. After you made peace with Israel the Saudis, who had extended enormous financial assistance to you, reprimanded and castigated you, with you firing back at the royal family with harsh attacks. In the meantime this has totally ceased. Are both sides aiming at a rapprochement?

As-Sadat: This must come from the Saudis. After all, it was not I who severed relations with them, but they did with me. They must come; I do not need them either materially or in any other way, but they need me.

SPIEGEL: What exactly do you mean to say by this?

As-Sadat: If the Saudis, as always, stick their heads into the sand, then the Americans can come to Egypt to defend Saudi Arabia. They can do that from Egyptian territory and come back again.

SPIEGEL: Saudi Arabia seems to be just as afraid of the threat by the militant Islamic fundamentalism of Khomeyni as is Egypt.

As-Sadat: Egypt is not afraid of Khomeyni, Saudi Arabia is.

SPIEGEL: But Muslim leaders in Iran have predicted already that you, President as-Sadat, will be the next Arab leader who will be crushed.

As-Sadat: You don't say.

SPIEGEL: And you have sworn to "combat the Khomeyni fever whenever it infects the souls of the Egyptians."

As-Sadat: No, no. Khomeyni has but few followers here, but quote me this way: I am not afraid of Khomeyni; I am not afraid of anybody.

SPIEGEL: Egypt's Muslim fundamentalists have attacked your birth control program, which is being fostered by your wife and which is vital to your country, as an "attempt to eliminate the Muslims in Egypt..."

As-Sadat: Who said that?

SPIEGEL: The Cairo fundamentalist paper AL-DAWA.

As-Sadat: Nonsense, that is nonsense.

SPIEGEL: Do you believe that the fundamentalists are incapable of becoming a threat to you in the future?

As-Sadat: Never, never, never.

SPIEGEL: But you do have the powerful Muslim Brotherhood in your country.

As-Sadat: This is just a splinter group.

SPIEGEL: Come again?

As-Sadat: It is a splinter group, yes sir, a splinter group like the communists or those who call themselves Nasirists.

SPIEGEL: The overthrow of the shah of Iran was started through the Islamic rebirth. Nobody, no state, no head of state dared give the overthrown man a home. You were the only one to do so. Why?

As-Sadat: To begin with, in our darkest period--before, during and after the October war--the shah sided fully with Egypt. Secondly, because we here in Egypt have a certain respect for values owing to our moral heritage of 7,000 years. And thirdly, because, as I said before, it was a shame for the world to treat a man and his family that way. This happened from one day to the next, and the entire world turned its back on him.

He has three daughters; I have six daughters. What does it mean for them to see their father treated that way? He was the emperor. I said at the time: "A shame for this world. Whatever the cost to us, I will let him come in." And this is why I assented when he ultimately asked me.

SPIEGEL: In looking back on your life, what would you consider your greatest success and what your most serious failure?

As-Sadat: I am just in the process of writing the second volume of my memoirs. At age 22, one nice afternoon, I was kicked out of the army and thrown into jail, not knowing what would become of me. On that day I thought that everything had just collapsed.

At a certain point of time later I had the same feeling all over again, but then it turned out in the end that it was the day of my victory. I may be criticized and charged with this or that mistake, but I am satisfied with what I have done.

SPIEGEL: How long do you intend to remain president of Egypt?

As-Sadat: Let me hope that I may be able to retire after my second term which will expire in October 1982 after the Israeli pullout from Sinai.

SPIEGEL: And then you will be writing the third volume of your memoirs?

As-Sadat: No. Not just a third volume. I would like to write many books yet and to read many books, for this is my hobby.

SPIEGEL: That is to say, you plan to live the life of a pensioner?

As-Sadat: Yes, this is what I would like to do, at my home village Mit Abu al-Kawm.

SPIEGEL: Can you imagine Egypt waging a major war again prior to your retirement, if not with Israel then perhaps with Libya's Al-Qadhdhafi?

As-Sadat: Why? If he starts...

SPIEGEL: Maybe he will start.

As-Sadat: I have always said that I do not have any claims on Libya. I do not want any territory, any oil, any money, nothing at all. All I want is good-neighbor relations.

SPIEGEL: But he seems to be your most inexorable enemy.

As-Sadat: That comes from his side only. I do not feel that way. I have nothing against him. I am not afraid of Khomeyni, so if I am not afraid of Khomeyni, how could I be afraid of such a child anyway?

SPIEGEL: Why did you not put him out of action when your tanks penetrated Libya a few years back?

As-Sadat: Because I consider morality indivisible. I have little regard for immoral maneuvering a la Machiavelli. Al-Qadhdhafi lived here in my home like my own son, and I was proud of him as I was proud of my son. Yes, sir. Many people told me later: Why not talk with him about unity on his terms? I replied: No, no. To me morality is indivisible, and it is in this spirit that I try to educate my people as well.

SPIEGEL: Mr President, thank you for this interview.

GHALI INTERVIEWED ON NORMALIZATION, PALESTINIANS

TA280940 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 28 Nov 80 p 8

[Interview of Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali by political correspondent Smadar Peri: "Clarity and Sincerity Are More Important Than Diplomatic Courtesy"---date and place not given]

[Excerpt] Over the last few weeks, and particularly since the socialist International Conference in Madrid--following which the joint communique by Peres, Ghali, Brandt and Kreisky was issued--there is special interest in Dr Ghali's views. The Israeli press takes it for granted that Dr Ghali is the person who represents the non-moderate element in the Egyptian approach to normalization with Israel, and this leads us to the importance of a thorough examination of his views as expressed in this interview.

[Question] People in Israel believe that the Egyptian orchestra is led by a tolerant conductor, who exhibits tolerance and a spirit of compromise in his policy toward us; while the first violin, played by Minister Butrus Ghali, is the conservative, the hard-liner.

[Answer] President as-Sadat deals with formulating general strategic lines. I deal with tactics, with the implementation of the strategy and working out the fine, day-to-day details. I am responsible for translating the principles into the language of practice.

[Question] But there is a feeling in Israel that you are being more severe on us than is warranted.

[Answer] In general, it is when one reaches the operational stage that the difficulties show up. I agree that President as-Sadat shows tolerance in formulating the principles and when the problems arise--I am more reserved.

[Question] To date, more than 2,000 Israeli tourists have gone to Egypt. Where are the Egyptian tourists who would like to visit Israel?

[Answer] Nobody can force the Egyptians to visit Israel. Most Egyptians show no interest in Israel's tourist sites and others do not come because they do not agree with the Israeli Government's policy.

[Question] Is the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs doing all it can to encourage Egyptian tourism in Israel?

[Answer] We are not stopping Egyptian citizens from going to Israel. However, we will not force those who are not interested to go to Israel.

[Question] There are complaints about obstacles to Israelis and Egyptians who show an interest in commercial cooperation, in making deals together.

[Answer] In the first stage, we must examine what both countries have to offer for the maintenance of cooperation. We must not forget that Egypt has very old traditional communication channels to Europe and we have been dealing with many countries for many years.

[Question] Nevertheless--after all, is there not an open border between the two countries?

[Answer] The Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs is doing its best to help cooperation. If an Egyptian citizen is interested in dealing with Israel, nobody can stop him.

[Question] At the political seminar held in Cairo between members of the Egyptian political establishment and the Israeli Alignment's top ranks, substantive issues were raised concerning the political future of the relations between the two countries.

[Answer] That was a constructive, positive meeting. We agreed on certain issues and there were points on which differences of opinion emerged.

[Question] Why was the meeting actually held with the Israeli opposition party?

[Answer] We believed that after 3 years of meetings and negotiations conducted between the two countries, it would not be normal only to meet with five or six people from the Israeli establishment. It was important for us to hear different views about what people in Israel think.

[Question] However, there was some discomfort among the Israeli participants in the political meeting when they returned to Israel. Some of them attributed this to President as-Sadat's statement completely rejecting the Jordanian option.

[Answer] President as-Sadat does not reject the Jordanian option. King Husayn was invited to participate in the negotiations over the future of the West Bank.

[Question] But President as-Sadat stated specifically that he is opposed to Jordan's entry into the negotiations.

[Answer] President as-Sadat said, and I explained this afterward, that if Israel did not make a gesture or take a step forward, Jordan would not join in the negotiations. Why should it?

[Question] But the Israeli gesture to Jordan is a matter between the Government of Israel and King Husayn. Why should Egypt interfere in matters between Israel and Jordan?

[Answer] The Camp David agreements contain an invitation to Jordan to join in the negotiations. We do not reject or oppose Jordan's incorporation. However, not at the current stage, not before Israel takes some sort of step forward, makes some gesture to Jordan.

[Question] Does the matter of the timing of Jordan's incorporation not depend on King Husayn and the Government of Israel's policy?

[Answer] That is what I said. Why should Jordan join in now, in the current state of the negotiations? After all, the Palestinians are also mentioned in the Camp David agreements as a main party in the future of the West Bank.

[Question] But why does Egypt make it a condition, and President as-Sadat come out with a statement determining that at the current stage and in theory Jordan will not join in? Perhaps King Husayn will decide that the time has finally come to jump onto the negotiations bandwagon.

[Answer] But Jordan has not joined in so far....

[Question] At the time of the Alignment rule, contacts were held between members of the Israeli establishment and King Husayn. Is it not possible that if the Alignment returns to power, that the contacts will be resumed and Jordan will express willingness to join in?

[Answer] If Husayn wants to join in, we will certainly agree. The assessment that Jordan will not now join in, before Israel makes some sort of gesture, is the essence of the unconditional evaluation of the situation that Egypt is presenting to King Husayn. [as published]

[Question] Dr Ghali, you refused to make a reciprocal visit to Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and visit the Jerusalem Foreign Ministry.

[Answer] After the ratification of the Jerusalem law defining the city as indivisible under Israeli rule, I refused to visit. However, in order to show goodwill, I expressed willingness to meet with Minister Shamir in Tel Aviv, Beersheba or Haifa.

[Question] Do you not think that by your public refusal to visit Jerusalem you actually achieved the opposite? That by refraining from the visit you in fact made it clear that you recognize the validity of the Jerusalem law?

[Answer] Definitely not. After the Knesset resolution on Jerusalem became a law, I decided not to visit Jerusalem.

[Question] But you could have taken advantage of your visit to declare, as soon as you arrived, that you were actually coming to Jerusalem as a demonstration of the fact that you do not recognize the Jerusalem law.

[Answer] Under no circumstances. This is a matter of a policy approved by the government: No Egyptian statesman holding an official post will make an official visit to Jerusalem.

[Question] But the Egyptian ambassador to Israel visits Jerusalem and meets with Foreign Minister Shamir in his office.

[Answer] The Egyptian ambassador is not on the level of a minister or senior statesman. The Egyptian ambassador to Israel visits Jerusalem for the purpose of his work, to advance issues and deal with problems.

[Question] Dr Ghali, 3 years after As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem, what is the situation today, in what stages are the relations between the two countries?

[Answer] I am optimistic. The more we conduct negotiations and the broader the contacts--the more we will succeed. In my opinion, the meeting with the Alignment members--Peres, Eban and Bar-Lev--that is normalization.

[Question] And what else?

[Answer] We will send delegations to Tel Aviv; and I stress, to Tel Aviv, not to Jerusalem, in order to participate in meetings with Israelis. The objective facing us is to give normalization greater depth. We aim at giving the relations quality, not quantity.

[Question] What problems still remain?

[Answer] The main problem is that your government has not in fact recognized the rights of the Palestinians. As soon as there is recognition by Israel, it will be easy to find solutions that will incorporate security with the Palestinians' rights.

[Question] What is your opinion about the Israeli assessment that Egypt is now in a period when it is waiting for a change in the Israeli Government and so the autonomy deliberations have been frozen?

[Answer] I am not concealing that we want to preserve the momentum and we will do this through normalization and if the autonomy negotiations do not succeed, we will still deepen relations.

[Question] But in the past Egypt made a linkage between progress in autonomy and normalization of relations....

[Answer] The linkage was policy. Today, in order to preserve the momentum, we will emphasize the normalization in order to bring about a solution to the Palestinian problem.

[Question] During your visit to Israel and your meetings with Israelis, did you manage to understand our special sensitivity as the only people responsible for our existence?

[Answer] We understand the sensitivity. After all, the entire upheaval As-Sadat caused lay in the fact that he put himself in the Israelis' place and learned to recognize Israel's problems. However, Israel used the security issue as an excuse for the establishment of settlements. You should also consider the sensibilities of others--the Palestinians.

[Question] Why does Egypt not work through the embassy in Tel Aviv to accelerate the implementation of autonomy in Gaza first?

[Answer] There is a proverb that says that it takes two to tango: Israel and the Palestinians. The Palestinians' situation has worsened in comparison with the period before the peace treaty was signed. You can read about the military government's deeds in all the world's press. There is fear on both sides: Israel fears the establishment of a Palestinian state and the Palestinians' fear they will be expelled by you.

[Question] What is the status of the Egyptian embassy in Tel Aviv? Does it enjoy any sort of preference in the Cairo Foreign Ministry?

[Answer] Nothing special. We have embassies throughout the world. When there is normalization, we open embassies.

[Question] Dr Ghali, after 3 years, what are the mistakes that have been made?

[Answer] Israel erred in its refusal to recognize that rights of the Palestinians. You are hiding behind a tree and are scared to peep out. The negative approach has caused complications in the peace process.

AL-AHRAM SAYS ARAB SUMMIT ENDED IN FAILURE

NC280950 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 28 Nov 80

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] AL-AHRAM and AL-AKHBAR comment on the Amman summit conference, which ended yesterday in disintegration and major political failure due to the Arab divisions and the boycott of the conference by Syria and four other Arab countries including the PLO.

In its editorial today AL-AHRAM asks: What can be expected from the Arab countries after this summit? It asserts: Nothing but further division and disarray.

Syria disclosed that [King] Husayn received 35 million dinars in advance from Iraq as payment for convening the conference in Amman.

In his closing speech at the conference, King Husayn looked happily at the audience and said: All elements of harmony and effectiveness and genuine Arab cooperation were ensured at this blessed meeting, thank God. The paper says that these words are beautiful. However, directly afterwards Husayn said: What saddens us is that certain Arab brothers failed to participate in the conference. What bleeds our hearts, more the King said, is that the PLO was prevented from participating at this meeting. The king then said verbatim: Lebanon's absence from the conference also pains us. Because of circumstances beyond its control Lebanon has become a captive of differences--we know who stands behind some of them and who stands behind others.

AL-AHRAM asks: What remains, after all of this, for the king to say before the summit of the Arab leaders who attended his summit in Amman? What can the Arab nation expect from their leadership, which demonstrates this image of disruption, division and disarray? After all of this they dwell on Arab solidarity. Words are easy and cheap. King Husayn's portrayal of Arab disintegration inside the summit conference of Arab unity was clearer than any evidence.

BRIEFS

TECHNICAL AGREEMENT WITH SWEDEN--Cairo, 18 Nov (MENA)--Minister of Electricity and Energy Muhammad Mahir Abaza attended here today the ceremony of signing the technical cooperation agreement between Egypt and Sweden. Chairman of the Hydraulic Projects and New Energy Association, Kamal Hamid signed for Egypt while the Swedish ambassador here signed for Sweden. Abaza pointed out that the agreement stipulates that a Swedish consultative firm will supervise the executive work for setting up Aswan second power generating station that will be established before Aswan reservoir. Abaza added that the value of the contract signed today amounts to \$8 million and will be financed by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD). The IBRD will extend a 150 million pounds loan for the full finance of the new station. [Text] [Cairo MENA in English 1400 GMT 18 Nov 80 NC]

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE 3 DEC

Communique No 166

JN031730 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Communique No 166 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 3 December 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

The outcome of our armed forces' military operations in the various operational sectors last night and today is as follows:

A. Known enemy losses:

1. In personnel: 39 killed.
2. In equipment: Seven 106-mm guns, one missile launcher, two vehicles, three gun emplacements, one mortar and one ammunition dump were destroyed.

B. Enemy elements tried to infiltrate a dockyard on the Karun River that our forces had earlier controlled. Our forces succeeded in surrounding the infiltrating elements, killing 15 of them and destroying 4 106-mm guns.

C. Our army helicopters attacked enemy concentrations on the (Shaykh Budayr)-Abadan axis in the southern sector, inflicting the following losses on them: four armored personnel carriers and one large fuel tanker destroyed. All of our aircraft returned safely to the homeland.

D. Our brave forces scored direct hits on a very large naval target and another medium size target at the entrance of the Khowr-e Musa Bay, some 45 km east of the port of Al-'Amiq. The two targets were seen ablaze and explosions could be heard from a distance. Thus, enemy losses in personnel are 54 killed, and in equipment: the destruction of 11 106-mm guns, 1 mortar, 4 armored personnel carriers, 3 vehicles, 3 gun emplacements, 1 missile launcher, 1 ammunition dump and 2 naval targets.

E. Our losses:

1. In personnel: 12 martyrs.
2. In equipment: One vehicle, one 60-mm mortar and one light missile launcher were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 3 December 1980

Communique No 167

JN032111 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2058 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Communique No 167 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 3 December 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Day after day, the heroes of Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah confirm that they are well-qualified to carry the honor of the immortal mission, through their readiness to perform their combat tasks with full efficiency and capability.

They have achieved successive victories on land, sea and air and this evening they managed to score another new victory to be added to their victories at sea, when they scored direct hits on two medium naval targets to the west of Khowr-e Musa Bay. The two targets were seen on fire and explosions could be heard in the distance.

Consequently, the number of the racist Persian enemy's naval targets destroyed today total four, one of which was large and three of which were medium sized.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 3 December 1980

ARABISTAN FIGHTERS INFLICT LOSSES ON IRANIANS

JN021132 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1115 GMT 2 Dec 80

[Text] Al-Muhammarah, 2 Dec (INA)--Arabistan [Khurestan] families have begun to return to the liberated areas of Arabistan following the restoration of normal life under the protection of the Iraqi Armed Forces. It is to be recalled that the racist Persian forces had forced these families to leave their land.

Mahmud Yasin Nasir, official in charge of the Arabistan Liberation Front office in Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr], has said that Arabistan families are now enjoying peace and tranquility following the liberation of the area by the Iraqi Army. He added that the Iraqi forces treat the Arabistan people in a humanitarian and Arab manner and extend to them all services.

In another development, the Arabistan fighters continued to carry out heroic operations against the racist Persians in defense of their Arabism and their right to a dignified and free life.

The Arabistan revolutionaries have issued a statement saying that the Martyr Abu Faysal group carried out an operation last Saturday against Persian military positions on the (Khowr-Musa) axis. The attack resulted in the killing and wounding of several Persian enemy.

The Martyr Tawfiq Ibrahim group carried out another operation during which it clashed with the guards of charlatan Khomeyni near the Karun River, inflicting grave losses in life on the guards. Two fighters were martyred during the operation.

PROGRESSIVE FRONT DELEGATION LEAVES FOR ROMANIA

JN021549 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1432 GMT 2 Dec 80

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Dec (INA)--A Progressive National and Patriotic Front delegation led by Hikmat Ibrahim, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command member and member of the front's supreme committee, left Baghdad for Bucharest today on a visit of several days to Romania, at the invitation of the National Council of the Socialist Democracy and Unity Front in Romania.

Hikmat Ibrahim said that the delegation will hold talks with officials in the Romanian Socialist Democracy and Unity Front National Council on means of consolidating bilateral relations of friendship and cooperation.

CUBA'S MALMIERCA RETURNS FOR FURTHER MEDIATION

Arrival 3 Dec

JN031742 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1740 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Dec (INA)--Isidoro Malmierca, Cuban foreign relations minister, arrived here this afternoon on a visit to Iraq.

During his visit, Malmierca will hold meetings and talks with the Iraqi officials within the framework of his efforts to solve the Iraqi-Iranian dispute.

'Aziz, Hammadi Meeting

JN032027 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2020 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Dec (INA)--Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council member and deputy prime minister, met with Isidoro Malmierca, envoy from Cuban President Dr Fidel Castro, chairman of the nonaligned movement, here this evening.

The meeting, which was attended by Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi and the Cuban Ambassador in Baghdad, dealt with the nonaligned movement's efforts to solve the Iraqi-Iranian conflict in a peaceful and just manner.

Malmierca arrived here this afternoon on a visit within the framework of his efforts to solve the conflict.

ATH-THAWRAH NOTES UAE STATEMENT ON ARAB ISLANDS

JN040957 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0920 GMT 4 Dec 80

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 4 Dec (INA)--In a commentary today on the official statement in which the UAE has called for the restoration of the three occupied Arab islands--Lesser Tunb, Greater Tunb and Abu Musa--to their legitimate owners, the newspaper ATH-THAWRAH says: The UAE's total rejection of any non-Arab sovereignty over the three islands constitutes a public rebuttal of the racist Persian regime's allegations and fabrications that the Arab islands belong to Iran.

The paper adds: The statement came as a categorical reply to the lies circulated by the president of the Iranian regime in which he claimed that the Arab islands were not occupied by force but by agreement between the shah's government and the owners of these islands.

ATH-THAWRAH asserts that Iraq, which is waging its national and pan-Arab war against the Persian aggressors, has been seriously and sincerely determined to sort out all the national and pan-Arab rights between the Arabs and Iran out of its commitment to safeguarding the security, liberty and independence of the Arab Gulf and the stability of world security.

The paper adds: The racist Persian regime should understand that Arab rights are indivisible and cannot be robbed despite the factors of division and weakness that prevail throughout the Arab homeland.

Concluding its commentary, ATH-THAWRAH says: The pan-Arab battle is one and the pan-Arab destiny is one. The Persians' aggression against Iraq paves the way for their aggression against the entire Arab Gulf. It is also part and parcel of the Zionist aggression and the imperialist machinations against the Arab nation's unity and future.

PDRY OPPOSITION OFFICIAL APPEALS TO ISLAMIC STATES

JN031720 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Text] Muhammad Salim Salih, constituent member and secretary of the foreign relations office of the National Grouping of South Yemen Patriotic Forces, has called on their majesties and excellencies, the kings, leaders and foreign ministers of the Islamic states, to include the issue of the PDRY people in the agenda of the forthcoming conference.

In a message to Dr Sa'dun Hammadi and the secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization, Muhammad Salim 'Ali called on the Islamic states to draft a strategy for saving his country from its present situation and to facilitate a visit by a delegation from the grouping to the Islamic states, so that they can explain the situation in Southern Yemen under the dictatorial Aden regime.

PRESIDENT RECEIVES THREE NEW ENVOYS' CREDENTIALS

JN031500 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1425 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Text] Baghdad, Dec (INA)--President Saddam Husayn received the credentials of the new Mauritanian, Sudanese and Dutch ambassadors to Iraq here today.

During his conversation with Mauritanian Ambassador (Al-Mahjub Ould Beyh), the Iraqi president stressed the importance of developing the fraternal relations between Iraq and Mauritania in order to bolster the Arab nation's struggle and to lay down solid bases for its cultural edifice. The Mauritanian ambassador stressed that the future of the two countries' fraternal relations will be an example of fraternal cooperation. It will also give the two countries and the Arab nation greater power and efficiency in the struggle against its enemies.

During his conversation with the Sudanese Ambassador Jalal Hasan 'Atabani, President Saddam Husayn pointed out that Iraq is the country of every Arab. The Sudanese ambassador, in turn, expressed his country's desire to promote the two countries' fraternal relations, in order to serve the Arab nation and to build its bright future.

During his conversation with Dutch Ambassador (Jonkhare David), President Saddam Husayn stressed the need to bolster cooperative relations with the Netherlands on the basis of equal interests, in order to serve humanity and world peace.

The presentation ceremony, which was held separately, was attended by Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah, Revolution Command Council secretary, and Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, minister of foreign affairs.

COMMUNIST PARTY SECRETARY REPORTED DETAINED

JN031040 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1030 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Dec (INA)--The ALIF BA' magazine reports today that the latest arrest campaign waged by the Syrian regime against the democratic opposition forces included well over 1,000 persons.

The magazine adds that Syrian intelligence has arrested Riyad at-Turk, the secretary general of the Syrian Communist Party, and his wife Dr Asma' Faysal, as well as a number of the party leaders.

The magazine says that reports from Syria noted that the detainees have been savagely tortured and many of them were killed.

KING HUSAYN COMMENTS ON NEW U.S. ADMINISTRATION

LD031503 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 29 Nov 80 p 1

[Ayman Habib report on "exclusive statement" by King Husayn]

[Excerpt] Amman--In an exclusive statement to AL-JAZIRAH His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan has stated that it is too early to assess the policy of the new American administration regarding the Middle East in particular and other international relations in general.

Replying to a question by AL-JAZIRAH King Husayn said: We are now watching with extreme interest what is happening in the United States. What we have witnessed and felt recently is that a big change appears to be taking place there. If the purpose of this change is to rebuild U.S. strength, relations and stances on the constitutional bases and principles on which they were originally built, then this change gives us hope that an Arab-American dialogue will be held in the future on issues that concern the two sides, particularly the Arab-Israeli conflict and peace in the Middle East.

The Jordanian monarch lauded what he termed the developments that have occurred in the United States which suggest that the ordinary American has begun to take a new view of things.

He said that if the American people wish to have an American national leadership then they probably see such a chance in the new U.S. administration, which would not be the hostage of past policies and stances.

King Husayn expressed his hope that the new American administration will reconsider all previous American policies and stances. We in the Arab world will have to await developments there.

PAPERS CRITICIZE SYRIA FOR PRECIPITATING CRISIS

JN040910 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 4 Dec 80

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] In an editorial entitled "We Welcome Arab Mediation and Reject the Logic of Skepticism," AL-AKHBAR says: What we now hope for and what we have always been concerned about and will always be sincerely committed to achieving is that Arab relations be strong and firm and that their strength and firmness harmoniously increase so that we can face the dangers surrounding our nation from all directions.

This, of course, especially applies to fraternal Syria, which is our partner in directly facing the Israeli enemy and its increasing dangers. Syria is our military extension and, in a similar way, we are its military extension.

Based on this pan-Arab stance to which Jordan is committed and continuously seeks to achieve, we welcomed the good offices which Saudi Arabia is undertaking to remove the tension on the border as a result of the massive Syrian buildup.

Nevertheless, those in Damascus who created a crisis basically for political motives comprising opposition to the Jordanian stand in support of Iraq, wanted to exploit the Saudi offices to continue carrying out their aims and designs.

Moreover, what they refer to as terms for ending the tension does not in the least indicate that they have abandoned their campaigns of skepticism and accusation against Jordan. They are giving themselves alone the right to evaluate issues and to suggest them to others. Such logic is not only rejected by Jordan, but by all the Arab countries whose leaders agreed at the Amman summit to support the Jordanian stand because it is in complete harmony with Arab solidarity and the interest of the nation and its fateful issues.

In an editorial entitled "A Piece of Advice to the Rulers of Damascus," AR-RA'Y says: If the Syrian officials have found out how rough the course they have slipped into is, and if they want to reduce the isolation that is hemming them in, especially after their military buildup on the border with Jordan, and if they want to rid themselves of what they have become involved in, we say to them that the way to do so is not by alleging that Jordan has accepted their terms for ending the buildup. To begin with, Jordan does not receive terms from anyone, a fact they are well aware of. Moreover, the terms themselves are based on a false assumption which falsely alleges that Jordan supports the Muslim Brotherhood operating in Syria and has disavowed its recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Such allegations are unfounded, except in the imaginations of those who make them. The allegation that Jordan has accepted terms that have been dictated to it is false and will not break the isolation around the rulers of Damascus and save them from their plight, nor will it save face.

KING HUSAYN INSPECTS ARMED FORCES ON BORDER

JN031829 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn, supreme commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, is continuing his inspection tours of the military formations deployed on Jordan's northern border in the face of the Syrian troop concentration.

His majesty spent today among his brothers and comrades-in-arms--officers, NCO's and soldiers of our heroic armed forces--who are the shields and protectors of this homeland and who give their lives for the sake of this homeland's loftiness, strength and pride.

His majesty the supreme commander expressed his pride in this procession of Jordan's soldiers, the soldiers of the great Arab revolution, who never give a chance to any aggressor who wants to stab the Arabs in the back and who betrays the noble principles that protect this nation's honor.

His majesty's brothers and sons gathered around him, showing their support for this valiant and vanguard leadership, their solidarity in their loyalty for this leadership and their stand in the face of those who covet and those who make threats.

His majesty was accompanied on this visit by His Excellency Staff Lt Gen Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces.

BUTRUS COMMENTS ON LEBANESE-ISRAELI MEETING

NC021435 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 2 Dec 80

[Text] A meeting was held today among Foreign and Expatriates Minister Fu'ad Butrus, Foreign Ministry Secretary Generak Kisrawan Labaki and Lebanon's UN permanent representative, Ambassador Ghassan Tuwayni, to discuss the renewal of UNIFIL's mandate in the south.

After the meeting the foreign minister was asked about reports on yesterday's meeting of the Lebanese-Israeli armistice commission. He said: The so-called clamor has been continuing since 1967 because Israel wrongly considers that the armistice between it and Lebanon is no longer in force. You are aware of Lebanon's view, which is supported by UN resolutions and reports, especially General Assembly and Security Council resolutions. Lebanon attended yesterday's session in An-Naqurah under UN auspices because it was a preliminary session for the armistice commission meetings.

He added that the head of the UN observers, General Kaira, attended the session from beginning to end.

AMAL MOVEMENT URGES SHI'ITE MINISTERS TO RESIGN

NC271925 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 Nov 80

[Text] The Amal movement has reaffirmed its previously declared position regarding the government because the reasons that had prompted the movement to take this position will remain.

A statement issued by the movement today after a meeting held by its Command Council said: We insist on all our demands and we call on the four Shi'ite ministers to resign from the Cabinet and we call for a speedy return of the army to 'Ayn ar-Rummanah because legitimacy can only be maintained through the preservation of the army and its morale.

UK FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL ARRIVES 1 DEC

NC011843 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 1 Dec 80

[Text] The head of the Middle East department in the British Foreign Office, Mr (John Graham), arrived in Beirut this evening in the course of a tour that will also take him to Syria and Jordan.

In a statement made at the airport he said: I am very happy to come to Lebanon to renew my relationships here, to see my friends, to meet with the Lebanese officials and to acquaint myself with their ideas and information on the situation in Lebanon in particular and in the area in general.

In reply to a question he said: I have private ideas which I cannot divulge now, but I will, of course, raise them with the Lebanese officials. I will listen to Lebanese suggestions.

Asked whether he will meet any Palestinian official, he said: I still have not seen my itinerary, but I have no objection to meeting anyone. He pointed out that the main purpose of his visit is to meet with Lebanese officials. Asked whether his visit comes within the framework of a European initiative, he said: No. My visit is to learn about the Lebanese situation. He said that he will visit the south tomorrow to learn about the situation there.

AFP: TROOPS REPORTEDLY WITHDRAWING FROM BORDER

NC141257 Paris AFP in English 1250 GMT 4 Dec 80

[Text] Amman, 4 Dec (AFP)--Heavy Syrian artillery units and personnel carriers were withdrawn from the Jordanian border overnight, diplomatic sources said here today citing eye witnesses. The reports said that the Syrian units were headed for Damascus.

Saudi Deputy Premier Prince Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, who returned to Riyadh last night after a mediation mission between Jordan and Syria, said early today that President Hafiz al-Asad had promised a gradual withdrawal of troops massed on the Jordanian border.

At 1200 GMT today, Jordanian authorities had not commented on the Saudi statement, but the Saudi Embassy here said that the deputy premier's statement was "not surprising". The prince was here for talks with King Husayn on Tuesday.

USSR'S KUZNETSOV DEPARTS FROM DAMASCUS 3 DEC

JN031252 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Text] Damascus--Vasiliy Kuznetsov, alternate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first vice president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, left Damascus at 1300 today at the end of a 3-day visit to Syria, during which he met with President Hafiz al-Asad.

The following saw Vasiliy Kuznetsov off at Damascus International Airport: Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm, prime minister; 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs; Walid Hamdun, deputy prime minister for services affairs; 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs; Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad, information minister; Dr Salim Yasin, minister of state for planning affairs; Yusuf Ju'aydani, minister of social and labor affairs [title as heard]; Dr Muhammad al-Atrash, minister of economy and foreign trade; Ra'fat al-Kurdi, communications minister; several top officials in the Cabinet and Foreign Ministry; Vladimir Yukhin, Soviet ambassador in Damascus; Soviet Embassy staff; and the ambassadors of the socialist states accredited to Damascus.

During the Soviet delegation's visit to Damascus, the instruments of ratification of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the Syrian Arab Republic and the USSR were exchanged. This treaty was signed by Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Leonid Brezhnev on 8 October and became effective on 2 November.

TISHRIN ON JORDAN INFORMATION MINISTER'S REMARKS

JN040844 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 4 Dec 80

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Battle Between One People in Two Countries and the Royal Regime," the newspaper TISHRIN says: News agencies have carried a report from Amman that the Jordanian information minister has categorically denied reports that Amman has accepted Syria's conditions for withdrawing its forces from the border. The conditions to which the Jordanian information minister was referring and which were reported in various press dispatches are that the Jordanian regime should refrain from helping the Muslim Brotherhood organization and should reconfirm its recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

TISHRIN says: Whoever refers to the newspapers and the news agencies which spoke about these conditions and Jordan's acceptance thereof, discovers that this remark was made in Amman by an official Jordanian source, not an official Syrian source.

Whoever goes back to the reports published by the Arab and foreign news agencies and papers in Damascus does not find a trace of what was published in Amman. The Jordanian information then unleashed several unenviable quixotic remarks against it. [sentence as heard]

TISHRIN adds: If the royal regime in Jordan finds that it is in its interest to preoccupy the people in Jordan with fictitious battles, fake heroism and campaigns of instigation with exposed objectives, nobody in Syria pays any attention to such unimportant battles. The entire Syrian people regret that Jordan and the fraternal Jordanian people are being stirred up to defend the royal regime's deviation and its inclination to participate in the U.S. settlement process and the plot to liquidate the Palestinian issue.

Syria's censure of King Husayn's regime pertains to the essence of the stand on the pan-Arab issue in Palestine and the pan-Arab struggle against imperialism and Zionism. Regarding these two basic issues, King Husayn's regime cannot find anything to say in defense of itself. TISHRIN explains that King Husayn's recent remarks to AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI, the Saudi newspaper AL-JAZIRAH and journalists in Amman expose the Jordanian regime's deviation from the joint pan-Arab stand which was embodied, at its minimal level, in the resolutions of the Arab summit conferences in Rabat, Baghdad and Tunis.

It was King Husayn who raised anew, amidst the current delicate circumstances, the idea of a confederation between Jordan and the West Bank. He is the author of the concept of the united Arab kingdom, seeking to bury the Palestinian issue alive and cooperate with Israel in subjugating and humiliating the Palestinian people and depriving them of their right to free self-determination.

It was King Husayn who expressed his readiness to cooperate with the new U.S. administration in liquidating the Palestinian issue. It is well-known that Reagan and his aides have advocated and are still advocating a Jordanian solution to the Palestinian issue and a Jordanian substitute to the PLO.

TISHRIN adds: To pave the way for his participation in the U.S. game, King Husayn is claiming what the new U.S. administration has not claimed for itself. He is claiming that this administration will reconsider and amend U.S. policies and stands, although all the statements made to date have not contained a mere signal to the effect that Reagan might go back on his promises of increased support for Israel and hostility to the PLO.

It is King Husayn who is advocating contacts with the United States during the current weak Arab situation, just as As-Sadat did when he claimed that 99 percent of the solution is in the hands of the United States. It is this same king who is attacking the PLO and casting doubts about it by claiming to be earnestly enthusiastic for it and calling on it to liberate itself from foreign domination and influence. He is following in the footsteps which led As-Sadat to dissociate himself from the Rabat summit resolutions and legalize the crime of negotiating with the enemy on behalf of Arabs and Palestinians in order to liquidate the Palestinian issue.

It was King Husayn's regime which shared in the imperialist-Zionist plot to crush Syria's opposition to the Camp David conspiracy by transforming Jordanian soil into a base and passageway for the plot and crimes of the gangs of murder and terrorism while pretending to march along with Syria on the road of coordination and integration and claiming ignorance of this Jordanian involvement in the plot. In view of these facts, the Jordanian regime cannot say anything to clear its reputation. Thus, it is fabricating battles and stands and jumping on the bandwagon of instigation against Syria.

TISHRIN concludes: However, the Jordanian regime's attempt to sow discord between the Jordanian and Syrian peoples is doomed to failure because the battle against the regime's deviation is a battle between one people in two countries and the royal regime which has chosen the road of deviation.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES LEBANESE AMAL MOVEMENT DELEGATION

JN031456 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received a delegation here today representing the leadership of the Lebanese Amal movement, led by the Amal secretary general.

The two sides discussed developments in the situation in Lebanon in all its political and security aspects, the situation in southern Lebanon and means of consolidating the cohesion of the Lebanese progressive and national forces in the face of the aggressive designs.

SAUDI KING'S ENVOY BRINGS MESSAGE TO AL-ASAD

3 December Arrival

JN031234 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Text] Damascus--His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard in Saudi Arabia, arrived in Damascus at 1300 today with a message to His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad from His Majesty King Khalid.

'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign affairs minister; Comrade Dr Rif'at al-Asad, commander of the defense squads; the Saudi ambassador in Damascus; the Saudi Embassy staff; and several top foreign ministry officials met Prince 'Abdallah at Damascus international airport.

Al-Asad Reception

JN031644 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Text] At 1615 today President Hafiz al-Asad received His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the national guard in Saudi Arabia, accompanied by Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz at-Tuwayjari, the assistant commander of the national guard. The meeting was attended by Shaykh 'Abd al-Muhsin az-Zayd, Saudi ambassador in Damascus.

Envoy's Appreciation

JN032348 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2315 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Text] His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the national guard in Saudi Arabia, has addressed the following greeting cable to President Hafiz al-Asad from his plane upon leaving Syria:

His Excellency brother Hafiz al-Asad: I am returning to my country after my meeting with Your Excellency with full confidence, joy and optimism over what I heard from Your Excellency and over what was confidently confirmed to me by a statesman who appreciates his nation's higher interests. This only shows your response to the values of the nation, of which you, Mr President, are one of the great leaders. The great Syrian people and their role in developments are our continued cherished hope. I will speak to your brother, King Khalid, and your other brothers there of all the hospitality and the warm reception accorded me and of your fraternal response to the message I conveyed to Your Excellency from your brother King Khalid.

May God protect you and grant you success in serving our Arab and Islamic nation. I wish Your Excellency and our fraternal Syrian people well-being and prosperity. Finally, please accept my regards and high esteem.

Signed: Your brother 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz

3 December Departure

JN032127 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Text] This afternoon President Hafiz al-Asad received His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard in Saudi Arabia, accompanied by Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz at-Tuwayjari, the assistant commander of the national guard. The meeting was attended by Shaykh 'Abd al-Muhsin az-Zayd, Saudi ambassador in Damascus.

His highness conveyed a message to the president from His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, dealing with the possibility of improving the current Arab situation.

His Highness Prince 'Abdallah left Damascus tonight for Riyadh. He was seen off at Damascus International Airport by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Dr Rif'at al-Asad, Ba'th Party regional command member; and the Saudi charge d'affaires in Damascus.

LIBYAN FOREIGN SECRETARY ARRIVES WITH MESSAGE

JN041123 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 4 Dec 80

[Text] Dr 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam at-Turayki, Libyan secretary of foreign affairs, arrived in Damascus today with a message to President Hafiz al-Asad from brother Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi.

'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, led those who received 'Abd al-Salam at-Turayki.

ALGERIAU.S.-ALGERIAN TALKS ON HOSTAGES IN IRAN CONTINUE

LD032328 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2300 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Text] The technical talks concerning the American hostages held in Iran have been continued for another session in Algiers. The meeting was attended by the Algerian and American delegations, led respectively by Mahmoud Ben Yahia and Warren Christopher. The Algerian delegation is due to leave Algiers tonight for Tehran where it will convey to the Iranian authorities the explanations furnished by the USA regarding the subject of the hostages, at the request of Tehran.

POLITICAL BUREAU CALLS FOR IRAQ-IRAN CEASE-FIRE

LD021637 Algiers ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 21-22 Nov 80 p 1

[Editorial: "The Right Way Out"]

[Excerpt] The FLN Political Bureau on Wednesday quite clearly defined Algeria's attitude toward the Iraq-Iran war. The Political Bureau called for a cease-fire and for the return of the fighting forces to their original positions within the framework of implementing the 1975 Algiers agreement and its protocols.

This brotherly appeal to stop bloodshed and to return to reason and wisdom comes as a confirmation of Algeria's principled stands following the failure of the Islamic mediation, the faltering of the nonaligned movement's efforts, and the confusion of the United Nations. The Iraq-Iran war has entered its third month. More blood is being shed, and economic and building installations are being destroyed with no glimmer of hope on the horizon that it will stop or that the international efforts will find a quick way to halt it.

At this juncture the Political Bureau draws attention to the fact that the Algiers agreement and its supplements signed by Baghdad and Tehran "constitute the right framework for finding a peaceful and just solution to all disputes between both sides and define the principles and means that ensure ironing out the problems outstanding between them, which is consistent with international covenants and resolutions and recommendations of the nonaligned movement and the Islamic Conference Organization."

The agreement provisions preclude resort to fighting since it provides for measures to settle differences between the two sides: There are direct bilateral negotiations, mediation by a friendly state, and, finally, resort to arbitration if mediation fails. Does not this agreement and its supplements indicate the way to the negotiating table, in order to halt the bloodshed and curb the madness of mutual destruction which will only bring more grief and pain for the two fraternal peoples.

Good intentions and good will on both sides are bound to lead to wisdom and a return to the right course. We believe that the coming Arab summit will be capable of making the two brothers and neighbors lay down their arms and to follow this sound and safe course.

71 TREMORS REPORTED IN EL ASNAM AREA 3 DEC

LD041036 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 4 Dec 80

[Text] A series of light tremors were registered yesterday--totaling 71--in the El Asnam area. The strength of the tremor that occurred at 1000 and 3 seconds reached 5 points on the richter scale. Its epicenter was (Beni Rahib). Two light tremors were also registered yesterday in both (?Djaret) and Bordj Ben Amar.

LIBYATRIPOLI REPORTS ON SENEGAL-MAURITANIA TENSION

LD031404 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Text] Relations between Mauritania and Senegal have gravely deteriorated over the past 2 days after the ruling regime in Senegal massed its forces along the Mauritanian-Senegalese border.

The Jamahiriya Arab News Agency has quoted those arriving from Senegal to Nouakchott as having said that the number of Senegalese concentrated along the Mauritanian border was between 5,000-6,000 soldiers with full military equipment. It is known that the Senegalese regime has suspended the movement of goods between the two countries.

MAURITANIAHAYDALA DELIVERS INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY ADDRESS

AB281310 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1005 GMT 28 Nov 80

[Address to the nation by President Khouna Ould Haydala on his country's 20th independence anniversary--live]

[Excerpts] Members of the Military Committee of National Salvation, members of the government, ambassadors, officers, noncommissioned officers and soldiers, dear fellow countrymen: 20 years ago, our country achieved its national independence and our people freely decided to fully assume the heavy responsibilities that history and geography have imposed on us in this subregion where, in the past, our ancestors propagated the Arab-Islamic and African civilization.

The happiness with which we are today celebrating this 20th anniversary of our national independence could (?predicted); however, we cannot but regret the irresponsible squandering of our people's resources and moral values during the first 17 years of independence. To crown this era of bad management, in 1975 the country was plunged into a fratricidal and unjust war against its desire and higher interests--a war that destroyed its already tottering economy. This was why the national armed forces' main task on coming to power was to withdraw our country from the war in the Sahara. They recognized the Saharan people's right to self-determination and the Polisario Front as the legitimate and only representative of the Saharan people. Our country has adopted a position of neutrality with regard to this conflict and is prepared to maintain close relations of cooperation with the countries and peoples concerned and with all the neighboring and friendly countries provided they respect our independence and sovereignty.

However, the Saharan conflict continues to worry us for two main reasons. First of all, because it is going on on our borders, it compels us for reasons of security to maintain our armed forces in a state of permanent mobilization as in the past. Thus, it is diverting a part of our modest resources that should be devoted to the efforts for economic and social development. The second reason is that it involves two brotherly and neighboring peoples--the Moroccan and Saharan peoples. As we did on (?20 August) 1979, we appeal to our Moroccan and Saharan brothers to try to find a peaceful, just and lasting solution which, in our opinion, constitutes the only way out.

This is why we deplore the maneuvers observed during the meeting of the wise men's committee in Freetown in September this year the objective of which was to further (?worsen) the conflict and hinder all possible solutions. It is the authors of these maneuvers who permanently support the attempts of imperialism and neocolonialism to frustrate all the desires of the peoples of our subregion for independence.

They aim to create in this area a new hotbed of tension in Africa. The peoples of the subregion must be aware of this reality and mobilize themselves to foil the neocolonialist maneuvers aimed at creating conflicts between us. We must deplore the attitude of certain African leaders who allow themselves to be drawn into a situation which is very detrimental to the future of cooperation between our countries and who thus place themselves in the service of imperialism in the region.

Of course, my concerns are not confined to our subregion. We painfully feel the fallout and consequences of the other conflicts now shaking Africa and Asia. War is still raging in Chad [few words indistinct]. We appeal to the leaders of all the factions concerned to settle their differences peacefully in accordance with the Lagos accords [few words indistinct]. We denounce all foreign interventions in this fratricidal conflict.

In the Middle East, there is a war between two Muslim peoples, the Iraqi and Iranian peoples. It is obvious that the (?continuation) of this can serve only the interests of imperialism and Zionism. In this connection, we reiterate our support for all just causes and, at the same time, we formulate the hope that our Iraqi and Iranian brothers will agree to sit at the negotiating table to find a peaceful solution to their conflict on the basis of the recognition of Iraq's historic right over Shatt al-'Arab. This is the way to safeguard the solidarity and entente among the Muslim peoples. More than ever before, this solidarity and entente are essential for the triumph of the liberation struggles being conducted by the African and Asian peoples and especially the Arab people of Palestine and the peoples of South Africa and Namibia.

In the name of the Mauritanian people, I proclaim our lasting support for the legitimate struggle of these peoples to recover their freedom, independence and spoliated territories.

Citizens of Mauritania, the actions taken by the Military Committee of National Salvation and the government to consolidate our country's independence and improve our image on the international scene have been positive. Our efforts to improve the economic situation have achieved satisfactory results considering the forecasts of the economic and financial recovery plan. To improve the overall balance of our public finances, we (?made efforts) to (?reduce) our debts as well as our budget deficits. This year's budget deficit will probably be equal to the forecast of the recovery plan. Nevertheless, the adequate management of the state treasury has enabled us to regularly honor all our commitments. The results of these efforts, plus foreign aid, enabled us to increase the amount at the disposal of the treasury to a level that has never been attained since 1976.

Thus, by 6 November 1980, the state had paid all its debts to the central bank. The balance of payments at the end of the first half of 1980 showed a surplus of 386 million ouguiyas, but the current balance of payments has remained relatively high as it amounts to 2.127 billion ouguiyas. As far as the fishery sector is concerned, the year 1980 witnessed the creation of two national fishery companies. Our efforts made it possible to reintegrate our traditional partners within the context of our new fishery policy and to encourage our local businessmen to invest in this sector, which has up till now been monopolized by foreign ship owners. There are already 52 fishing vessels flying the Mauritanian flag, and this number will soon be increased to 74. Moreover, the fiscal revenues derived from this sector during the first 9 months of this year amount to 648,215,937 ouguiyas.

Concerning the industrial, mining and commercial sectors, the efforts made this year were aimed at accelerating the various projects that had been neglected for many years now as well as the definition of a coherent policy of promoting our industrial, mining and commercial sectors. It was thus that a general plan for the establishment of a sugar refinery has been prepared with the cooperation of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, which granted us a loan of \$10 million to finance the various operations to be undertaken before the factory can begin production.

It was thus also that measures have been taken so that the Nouadhibou oil refinery may enter into production. We are actively looking for partners for the creation of an organization be in charge of the exploitation of this industrial complex. Algeria has already granted us a loan of \$20 million under advantageous conditions to cover our costs of preparation preceding the beginning of operations.

A Chinese mission has been in our country for 1 month now to solve the water problem in Nouakchott. Concerning the telecommunications sector, the extension of the Nouakchott-Nouadhibou network, the construction of an earth station [few words indistinct] and the establishment of a 5,000 line telephone network at Nouadhibou are included in the development program.

The rural areas, which must be the main beneficiary of the efforts of the Military Committee of National Salvation and the government, was not forgotten. Thus, several agricultural projects are now being executed. They concern the establishment of market gardens, protection and development of crops, increasing food production and distribution of seeds and foodstuffs. Funds have been obtained for three new livestock development projects. They are the pilot livestock development project in the [word indistinct] and Savanna regions being financed by the European Development Fund, the livestock project of (Sakossa) being financed by the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the project to instruct stockbreeders in the (Zorgor) region being financed by the republic of France. Moreover, great efforts have been made this year to safeguard the health of our livestock and increase the number of wells. The hydroagricultural development of the (Zorgor) plain is continuing normally and the financing of the program of development of the black (Zorgor) is ensured thanks to the cooperation of the World Bank, the European Economic Community, Saudi Arabia, Libya, West Germany, the United Arab Emirates, the Islamic Development Bank, (?Cuba) and the Republic of France. The cornerstone of this project will be laid probably in December this year.

Meanwhile, the situation of the rural areas remains a matter of concern because of the insufficient rainfall observed this year, which varied between 40 and 60 percent with the exception of the riverine region, where rainfall was almost normal. Despite the praiseworthy efforts of our populations to derive maximum benefit from the soil, the deficit in grain production during the 1980-1981 agricultural season will be very considerable, and we will again be compelled to seek the assistance of friendly countries and organizations. Besides, it is necessary that I should emphasize that the assistance of these countries and organizations has never been lacking. In this regard, the figures of the commission on food aid are sufficiently eloquent. I take this opportunity to address our sincere thanks to all these friendly countries and organizations. They are: the United States of America, the FAO, [word indistinct], the European Economic Community, Iraq, France, the Netherlands, Spain, West Germany, Canada, Turkey, Finland, Switzerland, Kuwait and Qatar.

Our health services will be considerably improved with the construction in 1981 of six district health centers and 13 (?dispensaries) and the commissioning of the Nouakchott hospital for tuberculosis patients. As far as information is concerned, the year 1981 will witness the commissioning of the new radio station which will be financed by the sister Republic of Iraq and which will cover the city of Nouakchott and its immediate outskirts.

In order to restore to our people their own identity as well as their virtues inspired by the teachings of Islam, the Military Committee of National Salvation has implemented the decision adopted at the beginning of the year to apply the Islamic Sharia law.

Several sentences pronounced by the criminal court in strict conformity with Islamic law have already been executed to the great satisfaction of the public. Moreover, in order to create a (?climate) of more justice and democracy, the military committee of national salvation on 5 July 1980 decided to definitively abolish slavery throughout the national territory. This decision, which is in conformity with the teachings of Islam, will enable us to safeguard our good image and free part of our productive forces. The latter will greatly benefit from the readaptation of our land ownership system to the needs of development.

Citizens of Mauritania, the Military Committee of National Salvation is anxious that the people should assume their responsibilities: It is anxious to offer to all the citizens of this country--without any distinction of race, origin, sex or social class--the opportunity to contribute in equality and justice to the construction of a free and prosperous Mauritania. In order to channel all these energies, the National Movement of Voluntary Workers has been set up throughout the national territory and has aroused a great upsurge of patriotism and working zeal. It already has to its credit several concrete achievements of obvious public utility. Contrary to what its detractors have been saying, the National Movement of Voluntary Workers comprises patriots who have mobilized themselves to serve the higher interests of the Mauritanian people. It is not in any way the embodiment of an imported foreign ideology. Rather, it is aimed at encouraging businessmen, industrialists, peasants, workers, members of the armed forces and youth to contribute to the construction of this country. Therefore, we strongly denounce the maneuvers of the evil-intentioned people who want to separate the National Voluntary Workers Movement from the people. We want them to know that this movement comes from the people, that it is working in the people's interest and that it cannot be in the service of foreign powers or ideologies. However, the Military Committee of National Salvation will never relent from asking all the classes of the people and especially the nation's active elements never to allow themselves to be influenced by imported ideologies and to maintain their methods of thinking and living in accordance with the authentic values of the Mauritanian society.

Dear fellow countrymen, the task of national recovery undertaken on 10 July 1978 is in good hands, as our (?recent) achievements testify. The future is therefore very promising provided we can transcend our internal contradictions and devote ourselves to the task of nation building in a spirit of solidarity, unity and selflessness. It is true that there are numerous difficulties and that our enemies have not yet laid down their arms. But we are animated by the will to succeed. The Military Committee of National Salvation will not spare any effort to fulfill the promises it made to the people on 10 July 1980, that is, to redress the economic situation and restore democratic freedoms.

INFORMATION MINISTER RETURNS FROM ROMANIA 3 DEC

AB030833 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Text] Lt Comdr Dahne Ould Ahmed Mahmoud, minister attached to the Military Committee of National Salvation in charge of information also returned to the capital yesterday from Bucharest, Romania, where he paid an official visit upon the invitation of the Center for Democracy and Socialism of Romania. The minister was accompanied during the trip and the visit by Dr [name indistinct], chairman of the national company.

In a statement made to the national press Lt Comdr Dahne Ould Ahmed Mahmoud, minister attached to Military Committee of National Salvation in charge of information stressed; we examined aspects of cooperation between our two countries with Romanian officials. We also examined (?international issues). On the (?atmosphere in which) the talks were conducted with the Romanian authorities Lt Comdr Dahne Ould Ahmed Mahmoud expressed his satisfaction and pointed out that similar views were exchanged on issues discussed during the talks.

Mr Mohamed El Mokhtar Ould Zamel, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation also returned to Nouakchott on the same plane. He represented the head of state at the 11th summit in Amman, Jordan. The minister also attended a joint meeting which took place at the beginning of the summit. The minister of foreign affairs and cooperation was met on arrival by Mr [name indistinct] who served as minister of foreign affairs during his absence.

MALIAN MINISTER BRIEFS HAYDALA ON DAKAR MEETING

AB021626 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1400 GMT 2 Dec 80

[Text] Lt Col Khouna Haydala, chairman of the CMSN [Military Committee of National Salvation], head of state and government, this morning received in audience Mr Robert Tielbe N'daw, Malian minister of industrial development and chairman of the OMVS [Senegal River Development Organization] Council of Ministers. The latter made a report to the head of state and current chairman of the OMVS heads of state conference on results of the last meeting of financial backers of the OMVS held in Dakar.

On his arrival in Dakar yesterday, Mr N'daw stated that this meeting will enable them to discuss all the problems concerning the financing of the (Tiama) and (Namantali) dams. The amount involved in financing the construction of these dams is almost a billion dollars.

In view of the persistent drought, which undermines our agricultural economy and stock-breeding, we need to harness our waters to prepare for the year 2000 and the future of coming generations, he concluded.

The Malian minister was accompanied by Mr Moktar Ould Haiba, secretary general of the OMVS.

MOROCCO

BOUABID REVIEWS RESULTS OF ARAB SUMMIT 29 NOV

LD291554 Rabat MAP in English 1219 GMT 29 Nov 80

[Text] Fes 29 Nov, (MAP)--Mr Maata Bouabid, Moroccan premier and minister of justice, arrived here Friday returning from Amman where he represented King Hassan II of Morocco at the works of the eleventh Arab summit.

On arrival, Mr Bouabid declared that this Arab summit had taken place in special circumstances because of the tension prevailing on the Arab scene and the division and obstruction undertaken by some delegations which withdrew from the summit without good reason.

The Moroccan premier recalled that the summit had adopted several major resolutions. On the political level, the conference of foreign affairs ministers prepared many documents and adopted recommendations to close Arab ranks in facing Zionism and strengthening the struggle of the Palestinian people.

In the economic field, four resolutions were adopted and four documents approved. The first one is an Arab economic document-charter aimed at protecting inter-Arab economic cooperation from political disturbances. The second document is related to the Arab economic strategy which determines perspectives of inter-Arab cooperation in the economic, financial and social fields. The third document deals with investments agreement aimed at encouraging Arab investments in Arab countries. The fourth document labelled the Arab development decade aims at helping less developed countries to carry out their economic and social projects.

Mr Bouabid also recalled that he had held talks with the heads of several Arab delegations in Amman on bilateral relations, the situation in the Middle East and international issues and seized the opportunity to reaffirm the position of Morocco vis a vis its national cause, namely the achievement of territorial integrity.

Mr Bouabid affirmed that the summit was a success thanks to the Jordanian organization and the resolutions adopted. It is to be recalled that crown prince of Jordan, Hasan ibn Talal, offered Thursday in Amman a dinner in honour of the Moroccan premier, and informed him of the situation in Arab occupied territories and the Israeli manoeuvres aimed at the Judaization of the city of Al-Quds [Jerusalem].

The efforts stepped up by King Hassan II of Morocco, chairman of the Al Quds committee, to thwart Zionist expansionism in the area and to liberate the holy city were also evoked.

This dinner was also attended by Mr M'hamed Boucetta, Moroccan minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation, Mr Ahmed Bensouda, advisor to King Hassan II, Mohamed Tazi, Moroccan ambassador to Tunisia and representative of Morocco to the Arab League, Mr Marwan al-Qasim, Jordanian minister of foreign affairs, Mr Nasir Al-Asad, chairman of "Ahl al Ba'th", a Jordanian institution in charge of studies and researches, and several high ranking Jordanian officials.

MILITARY SUCSESSES IN SAHARAN CONFLICT REPORTED

LD012102 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 1 Dec 80

[Text] Within the framework of the mopping-up operations being carried out by the Royal Armed Forces northwest of Ras Khanfrah, on the morning of Sunday, 30 November the Royal Armed Forces engaged two enemy battalions. Fierce battles took place from 1030 to 1530. The enemy concentrated all efforts to oppose the joint coordination plan between the land and air forces, but all enemy attempts failed and they were forced to retreat and flee. They left behind in the battlefield 82 vehicles, a quantity of weapons including a Stalin organ, 2 missile launchers, two B-11 guns and one double-barrel 23mm gun. The mercenaries suffered heavy losses in men, estimated at 220 killed or wounded. Eight of our men were martyred and 30 were wounded.

SUDAN

MIRGHANI EXPLAINS REGIONAL POLICY STANCES

LD021227 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 18 Nov 80 p 3

[Report on an interview given to Hasan az-Zahiri by Sudanese Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Muhammad Mirghani--date and place not specified]

[Excerpts] The Sudanese Minister began by discussing Sudan's role in restoring Arab solidarity. He said: the restoration of Arab solidarity is one of the priorities of Sudanese policy, because we firmly believe that solidarity is important in confronting Zionist challenges. I need not emphasize that, in the absence of Arab solidarity, Israel remains the primary beneficiary when it comes to implementing its aggressive and expansionist policy, which is represented in its annexation of the city of Jerusalem, its continued aggression against south Lebanon and its disregard of UN resolutions concerning the Arab issue.

In Sudan, which is committed to the causes of the Arab nation, we believe that the Arabs must reunite their ranks and overcome the peripheral contradictions in order to achieve our nation's aims and to confront the Israeli designs.

Regarding Sudan's stand on the war in Chad, Minister Mirghani said: Sudan is very interested in the Chad problem in view of the special and strong ties binding the Sudanese and Chadian peoples and because we are affected by what happens in the neighboring country. In fact, our hearts are full of sorrow and sadness over the killing and destruction that is taking place in fraternal Chad. We are indeed saddened as we see the sons of the same country taking up arms against each other. From the start of the dispute, Sudan tried with a true fraternal spirit to end the conflict by peaceful means. Our efforts were based on conviction and experience derived from Sudan's unique experiment, when it resolved its internal problems without interference from anyone. We made numerous initiatives and contacts which often succeeded, but the disputing parties soon took us back to square one.

The Chadian problem can be resolved only if the interference in Chad's affairs, which reached its peak recently, stops. N'djamena and other areas in Chad have recently been turned into arsenals for sophisticated weapons, and planes have been used. While drawing attention to the seriousness of the interference, which has reached a peak in Chad, we believe that this interference will only increase the division among the suffering and dispersal of the Chadian people.

We then asked his excellency about the relations between Sudan and its neighbor Kenya.

He said: The relations between the two countries are prospering, thanks to the special attention which Presidents Numayri and Arap Moi are giving to these relations and to promoting them. This was evident at the meeting of the joint Sudanese-Kenyan committee held in Nairobi toward the end of October 1980, which produced many recommendations concerning economic, tourist, technical and cultural relations. We see a new era now emerging in relations between the two countries. Moreover, joint efforts are being made to promote bilateral relations between the two countries, because they are agreed on the need for the prevalence of security and stability in this area and for cooperation among the states in the area, in order to coordinate the exploitation of the region's resources and to find collective solutions to the areas's problems.

[Question] Has the OAU failed to reach a peaceful settlement between Ethiopia and Somalia?

His excellency answered: The Horn of Africa represents a deep-rooted and complex problem. It is one a problem that is difficult to solve overnight. So I do not believe that the Africans, as an organization, have failed in finding a solution. However, efforts must continue to bring about rapprochement between the two countries, to create an atmosphere of confidence between them and to find a final and lasting solution to the dispute. Sudan participated in the committee meetings held in Lagos last August. Sudan will continue its efforts to establish agreement between the brothers in Somalia and Ethiopia. We hope that these efforts will succeed.

On Sudan's attitude toward Israel's decision on Jerusalem, his excellency said: Ever since its occupation of Jerusalem, Israel has had the intention of annexing Jerusalem and proclaiming it its capital. For this reason, its recent decision is not new. Therefore, in addition to the efforts that are being made by the Arab states in international forums and at the United Nations, a clear strategy must be charted, in view of the changes that have taken place, in which every Arab state knows its role because Israel will not respond to statements and resolutions.

Finally, the Arab states must do some soul-searching and surmount their differences and marginal contradictions in order to fulfill their aims of regaining the occupied Arab territories and achieving the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights.

TUNISIAPRESIDENT BOURGUIBA MAKES CABINET CHANGES

LD031410 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1030 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Summary] Tunis, 3 Dec (TAP)--President Bourguiba has made a minor change in the cabinet. The Information and Culture Ministry has been split into two ministries. Mr Tahir Belkhodja, who was Tunisian ambassador to West Germany, has become minister of information; Mr Fouad Mbazaa remains minister of culture.

Mr (Baji Qayid Sabsi) has been appointed minister attached to the prime minister.

The Public Works and Housing Ministry has also been split; Moncef El Hadj Amor has become minister of housing and Mohamed Sayah remains minister of public works.

(Al-Mazri Shuqair) has been appointed minister attached to the prime minister for civil service and administrative reform, replacing Moncef El Hadj Amor.

WESTERN SAHARAMOROCCO ACCUSED OF ARRESTING DEMONSTRATORS

LD012058 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 1 Dec 80

[Text] The Saharan Red Crescent today published a statement saying that the repressive royal Moroccan authorities have arrested a large number of Saharan nationals in the occupied areas of Western Sahara during the boisterous demonstrations staged against the invaders.

The statement pointed out that the royal Moroccan forces made these arrests following the boisterous demonstrations. The demonstrators carried placards and chanted such slogans as "Long Live the Polisario Front". They also condemned the royal occupation of Western Saharan and called for an end to it. The statement said that at least 13 Saharan nationals were abducted from Bakhlah and that their fate is still not known.

EYTAN INTERVIEWED ON LEBANON SITUATION, SYRIA

TA031827 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Text] Chief of Staff Lt Gen Rafa'el Eytan this evening commented on last night's IDF operation in southern Lebanon north of Sidon. Our military correspondent, Shmu'el Tal, talked to him:

[Begin recording] [Eytan] When we operate in this way our aim is to prevent the terrorists from taking the initiative, to deprive them of the possibility of organizing for terrorist attacks in our territory, to inflict on them losses and damage, of course, and to make them stay busy with their own defense, so that they remain where they are and will be unable to initiate activity.

[Tal] How successful was last night's operation?

[Eytan] The operation was successful. We attained all the goals we set for the operation. The standard of performance was high. We are an advanced army--as was said in recent days, an efficient, small and very orderly army--and we are capable of putting into practice this kind of activity although it is very complicated.

[Tal] Chief of Staff, what is the situation in south Lebanon now, from the point of view of the terrorists? What are they doing?

[Eytan] We observe what I said before. The terrorists are withdrawing into themselves, defending themselves; they are digging in. Actually this has been one of the objectives we have set for ourselves. We observe that they are in this kind of situation. [end recording]

Syrian Forces

TA032008 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Interview of Chief of Staff Lt Gen Rafa'el Eytan to military correspondent 'Amiram Nir at the chief of staff's office on 3 December--videotaped]

[Excerpt] [Question] Mr Chief of Staff, it was reported today that Syrian forces have been transferred from Lebanon to the Syrian-Jordanian front and that terrorists have taken up their positions in Lebanon. On the other hand, it has been reported that tension on the Syrian-Jordanian border has eased. Are we now witnessing the end of the crisis?

[Answer] We have no information about terrorists taking up positions in Lebanon previously held by the Syrians upon their leaving their positions. I do not think the Syrians have decreased their numbers in Lebanon or given up positions. I, too, read that press report. We have no indication to show that it is true that tension has eased. We have no indication of that sort. The forces are concentrated and are facing each other and the distance between this and opening fire is very short. It is possible that they would face each other for a prolonged period of time, during which blood pressure will go down, temperatures will decrease and they will go back to their homes. At the moment, there is no indication that this is indeed so.

[Question] Is Israel maintaining the same degree of alert based on the data we had?

[Answer] Yes.

ETHIOPIASRV'S GIAP, DELEGATION ARRIVE FOR TALKS 29 NOV

LD292026 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in English 1015 GMT 29 Nov 80 EA

[Excerpt] Comrade Army Gen Vo Nguyen Giap, a member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Vietnam and deputy prime minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, arrived in Addis Ababa this morning leading a high-level government and party delegation on an official friendly visit to Ethiopia.

Comrade Army Gen Vo Nguyen Giap and Madame Giap were accorded a warm and friendly welcome on arrival at Bole international airport by Comrade Fisseha Desta, assistant secretary general of the Provisional Administrative Military Council, chairman of the Council of Ministers and member of the Executive Committee of the Committee for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia.

Award Ceremony

LD302028 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1800 GMT 30 Nov 80 EA

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam this evening decorated Comrade General Vo Nguyen Giap, member of the Central Committee Political Bureau of the Vietnamese Communist Party and SRV vice premier, with the medal of a high military service order.

Present at the decoration ceremony, which took place at the national palace, were: Comrades Fikre-Selassie Wogderess, Secretary General of the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] and Executive Committee member of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPWE]. Fisseha Desta, PMAC assistant secretary general, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and executive committee member of COPWE; members of the PMAC Standing Committee and of the COPWE Executive Committee; ministers; members of the COPWE Central Committee; commissioners; force commanders; and the Vietnamese delegation accompanying the vice premier.

Official Talks

LD012024 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1030 GMT 1 Dec 80 EA

[Text] Comrade Fisseha Desta, Standing Committee member of the Provisional Administrative Council, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and Executive Committee member of Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPWE], this morning met and held talks with Comrade Gen Vo Nguyen Giap, Political Bureau member of the Vietnam Communist Party Central Committee and vice premier.

The talks between Comrade Fisseha Desta and Comrade Gen Nguyen Giap at the National Palace concerned relations between the two countries and international issues.

The following comrades attended the talks on the Ethiopian side: Amanuel Amde Mikael, deputy senior minister and COPWE Central Committee member; Teferra Wolde-Semayitn; finance minister and COPWE Central Committee member; Tesfaye Dinka, industry minister and COPWE Central Committee member; Goshu Wolde, minister of education and COPWE Central Committee member; Kassa Kebede, labor and social affairs minister and COPWE Central Committee alternate member; Haile Leul Tebiki, science and technology commissioner; and Tibebe Bekele, permanent secretary of the Foreign Ministry.

PMAC Official

LD021454 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1980 GMT 1 Dec 80 EA

[Text] Comrade Fesseha Desta, Provisional Military Administrative Council assistant secretary general, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and member of the Executive Committee of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia, this morning met and held talks with Comrade Gen Vo Nguyen Giap, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and the country's vice premier. The talks between Comrade Fisseha Desta and Comrade General Giap, which were held at the National Palace, centered on relations between the two countries and international issues.

Referring to the long and historic struggle of the two friendly countries against external aggressors, expansionists and imperialists, Comrade Fisseha Desta affirmed on the occasion that the Ethiopian masses stood by the heroic struggle of the Vietnamese people for peace, prosperity and the unity of their motherland on the path of socialist development.

In reply, Comrade General Giap expressed the high regard of the SRV people and government for the struggle of the Ethiopian revolution for peace, equality and socialism and for the great victories won by the Ethiopian masses. He said that the SRV people would stand by the Ethiopian revolution until it won its final victory. Comrade General Giap stressed that the long-standing relations between the Vietnamese and Ethiopian masses and their past and present struggle against aggressors, expansionists and imperialists constituted the historical basis for the strengthening of their friendship and unity.

Earlier, Comrade Giap laid a wreath at the Victory Monument. On arrival at Megabit 28th square, Comrade General Giap, who was accompanied by Comrade Fisseha Desta and members of his delegation, was welcomed by Comrade Solomon Mulener, the acting mayor of Addis Ababa. People in the vicinity at the time accorded him a comradely welcome.

In another function, the delegation led by Comrade General Giap visited the municipality of Addis Ababa, where they were briefed on the function of urban dwellers' associations established at various levels.

Wodgeress Talks

LD031234 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1900 GMT 2 Dec 80 EA

[Text] Comrade Fikre-Selassie Wodgeress, secretary general of the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] and Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPWE] Executive Committee member, today held talks with Comrade Gen Nguyen Giap, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the SRV and the country's deputy prime minister. Their talks, held at the hall of COPWE, lasted about 3 hours.

In a speech he made on the occasion Comrade Fikre-Selassie expressed pleasure to have held talks with Comrade Gen Nguyen Giap. A COPWE spokesman said that Comrade Fikre-Selassie had briefed Comrade General Giap at length on the history of the struggle of the Ethiopian people, the ugly situation which the Ethiopian broad masses were subjected to in prerevolutionary Ethiopia and the magnificent victories scored by them after the eruption of the revolution.

Comrade Fikre-Selassie Wodgeress explained to Comrade General Giap that in addition to the economic, political, military and social victories achieved by the revolution, COPWE, which is the organizer of the party of the working people of Ethiopia, had been formed to overcome the weakness regarding organization, and that it was paving the way for the formation of the party.

At the end of the talks Comrade Fikre-Selassie Wodgeress presented Comrade Gen Nguyen Giap with a COPWE emblem. Earlier on arrival at the COPWE offices, Comrade Gen Nguyen Giap was presented with a bouquet. Then, accompanied by Comrade Fikre-Selassie Wodgeress, he visited the offices of COPWE.

In another development Comrade Fisseha Desta, assistant secretary general of the PMAC, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and COPWE Executive Committee member, held a banquet at the Hilton Hotel last night in honor of Comrade Gen Nguyen Giap.

In his banquet speech Comrade Gen Nguyen Giap said that since the struggle of the peoples of socialist Ethiopia and the SRV against external aggressors, expansionists and imperialists to defend their national unity had such high prestige at the international level and since they have a strong link of solidarity, they are an example to people who are under foreign domination and struggle for independence. Comrade Giap spoke of the conspiracies to stop socialist movements around the world and the tension thereby created by imperialism, which does not learn from past failures and which is the enemy of the peoples of the world.

He said that because the agreement between U.S. imperialism and the reactionary Somali Government to establish a military base was a plot hatcher against the Ethiopian revolution and absolutely against peace, the SRV strongly condemned it.

Replying, Comrade Fisseha Desta said that Comrade Gen Giap's visit to socialist Ethiopia would further strengthen the existing relations and cooperation between the two countries, which were based on common ideology and friendship between the two peoples.

Comrade Gen Giap concluded his 4-day friendly visit to socialist Ethiopia and left for the Republic of the Congo this morning.

2 Dec Departure

LD021900 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 2 Dec 80 EA

[Text] Comrade Gen Vo Nguyen Giap, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the SRV and the country's vice premier, left this morning for the Republic of Congo for a similar visit after completing his 4-day friendly visit to socialist Ethiopia.

On arrival at Bole airport, from where he left for home [as heard], Comrade Gen Vo Nguyen Giap, who was accompanied by Comrade Fisseha Desta, vice secretary general of the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC], deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and member of the Executive Committee of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPWE], was saluted by a guard of honor. The national anthems of the SRV and socialist Ethiopia were sung. Then Comrade Gen Giap and Comrade Fisseha Desta, accompanied by Brig Gen Haile Giorgis Habte Mariam, deputy defense minister and COPWE Central Committee member, inspected the guard of honor.

The send-off ceremony for Comrade General Giap and his high-level delegation was attended by Comrade Wubeshet Dessie, member of the PMAC Standing Committee and of the COPWE Central Committee; Comrade Hailu Yimenu, senior minister, secretary general of the National Revolutionary Economic Development Campaign and Central Planning Supreme Council and member of the COPWE Central Committee; Comrade Amanuel Amde Mikael, deputy senior minister and COPWE Central Committee member; COPWE Central Committee members; ministers and ambassadors.

KENYA

KENYAN-ETHIOPIAN TALKS OPEN IN NAIROBI 1 DEC

LD011944 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 1 Dec 80 EA

[Excerpt] The first round of talks between the visiting Ethiopian head of state, Col Mengistu Haile Mariam, and the Kenyan president, His Excellency President Daniel Arap Moi, opened at state house, Nairobi, this afternoon. The meeting reviewed various issues of mutual interest to the two countries, among the bilateral cooperation, the Horn of Africa and the situation in southern Africa.

Although the talks were held in a closed door session, it was understood that both Ethiopia and Kenya have drawn up the agenda for the subsequent meeting of technocrats on the issue of the Horn of Africa and regional development projects. [sentence as heard]

The Kenyan delegation included the vice president and minister for finance, Mr Mwai Kibak; the minister for constitutional and home affairs, Mr Charles Njonjo; two ministers in the office of the president, Mr Nicholas Biwott and Mr G.G. Kariuki; and the foreign minister, Dr Robert Ouko.

Luncheon Statements

LD021844 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 2 Dec 80 EA

[Excerpt] The visiting Ethiopian head of state, Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, has said that Ethiopia and Kenya share a common concern for the violation of human rights and will continue to champion the cause of equality and justice to mankind. The Ethiopian leader was speaking at the civic luncheon hosted in his honor by Nairobi Mayor Councillor Nathan Kahara at city hall after he made an extensive tour of the city to see developments taking place in one of Nairobi's thickly populated areas of eastlands.

Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam said the destiny of Kenya and Ethiopia lay in the unity of purpose at all levels. He expressed the hope that the existing good relations between Kenya and Ethiopia will continue to be strengthened for the benefit of the peoples of the two countries. The chairman proposed a toast for the long life of his excellency, President Daniel Arap Moi, the government and the people of Kenya. He said he was deeply moved by the hospitality accorded to him and his delegation by the Kenyan people.

Amid prolonged cheers from the dignitaries who attended the luncheon, the Ethiopian leader said he was returning to his country full of memories of the bonds of friendship between Ethiopia and Kenya. The luncheon was attended by the vice-president and minister for finance Mr Mwai Kibaka, who had earlier taken the Ethiopian visitors on a tour of the city.

The tour started with the laying of a wreath at the mausoleum of the late President Jomo Kenyatta at the parliament grounds. Others at the luncheon were Cabinet ministers, assistant ministers, members of parliament, councillors and other dignitaries.

On arrival at the city hall, Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam was greeted by a large crowd of wananchi who had gathered at the city hall to see him. He was then introduced to Nairobi city councillors before he signed the visitors book at the Nairobi mayors parlor. Mayor Nathan Kahara exchanged gifts with the Ethiopian head of state before the luncheon.

In his welcoming speech, Councillor Kahara said Kenya-Ethiopia relationship goes back to times immemorial. He said that the present closer links, Kenya is confident that this relationship will grow stronger. Mayor Kahara said, Nairobi and Addis Ababa established twin city relations in July 1968. He said, since then the two cities have remained closely connected and have shared the same goals of serving their residents. The mayor said the historic visit of the Ethiopian leader will be hailed and remembered by Nairobi residents who only last month were gratified to see Ethiopian traditional dancers perform at this year's Nairobi agricultural show. He praised the dynamic leadership of His Excellency President Daniel Arap Moi who, the mayor said, his sacred duty is to unite Kanyan's fight for human dignity.

Banquet Speech

LD021352 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 2 Dec 80 EA

[Text] His Excellency President Daniel Arap Moi said last night that the Kenya and Ethiopia have no alternative but to make military provisions supported by administrative measures designed to defend their territorial boundaries against any kind of threat. The president was speaking during a state banquet in honor of the visiting Ethiopian head of state, Col Mengistu Haile Mariam.

He said Kenya has always been deeply anxious to promote friendship and understanding within East Africa but had been saddened by the expansionist policies and military adventures of the Republic of Somalia. He said whether openly or in terms of fomented guerrilla warfare, Kenya has been subjected to barbaric forms of aggression over the last 2 decades. The president said it was tragic that all the efforts to create an atmosphere of peaceful coexistence and regional solidarity have constantly been negated and undermined by Somalia. He also said that the OAU had had no success in the issue.

He called on the Somali Government to renounce all territorial claims, in some public and convincing manner, in order to facilitate meaningful regional solidarity.

Replying to President Moi's speech, Chairman Comrade Colonel Mengistu assured his host that the spotless record of friendship between the peoples of Kenya and Ethiopia would be strengthened and consolidated from day to day. He recalled that when fascist Italy once partially occupied his country, those Ethiopians who fled from the atrocities of the occupation forces were received and cared for by the people of Kenya in a brotherly way. The Ethiopian head of state said that regional peace and cooperation was of vital importance for the realization of the people's aspiration. But he regretted to note that there are leaders of neighboring countries, who, rather than developing their own countries and raising the standards of living of their people, have adopted a permanent policy of subverting the efforts of their neighbors.

Saying he was referring to the leadership in Somalia, Colonel Mengistu regretted that the arrogant government of Somalia has no desire to learn from history.

The Mogadishu regime, he said, intent upon promoting its obsessive expansionist policy, has recently signed an agreement with the United States by which the ports of Berbera and Kismayu have been handed over as military bases. This, he said, is not limited to Ethiopia and the countries of the region alone, but equally poses a serious threat to the entire African Continent and the world peace.

Looking beyond the region's immediate neighborhood, Colonel Mengistu said that Zimbabwe's attainment of uhuru [freedom] will give a ray of hope to our brothers in southern Africa who are still suffering under the yoke of colonialism.

He called for coordinated political, moral, diplomatic and material assistance to be given to the leadership of SWAPO, so that Namibia may also attain independence.

The Ethiopian leader further assured President Moi that socialist Ethiopia will always extend the hand of good will and cooperation to all those who do not threaten her independence, unity and revolution.

He said that his country's endeavors to forge closer ties with Kenya, the Sudan, Djibouti and the two Yemens are but an effective translation of this policy into practice.

SOMALIA

PRESIDENT VIEWS ETHIOPIA, KENYA, TIES TO U.S.

LD011550 Mogadishu SOMALI NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY in English 1300 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Text] Mogadishu, 1 Dec (SONNA)--Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre has called on Somali workers to be ready to take arms in the event of a foreign aggression against the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR].

Addressing a mass rally yesterday at Mogadishu stadium the president said it was a sacred duty of every citizen to defend the independence and the territorial integrity of the nation, adding that the aggressors must be repelled by both the armed and civilian forces.

"The workers must be conscious that they are the only organized forces, after the army, and should be ready to take arms should there be a need," he said.

The president also urged the workers to rely on their physical, intellectual and moral strength in order to shake off economic and cultural backwardness.

"Only in so doing will the aid from friendly countries and international organisations be useful to complete the whole nation's efforts, he stressed.

Speaking on the present situation in the Horn of Africa, President Siad pointed out Ethiopia's intransigence and her trial [as received] to deny the rights of colonized peoples of Western Somalia, Abo, Eritrea and Tigre.

"It is ironic that Ethiopia, in collusion with foreign powers full of hegemonic appetite and strategic ambitions, is trying to deny the very existence of the liberation movements of these peoples struggling for their self-determination," he said. Referring to Ethiopia's consistent aerial raids against Somalia, which have claimed the lives of many innocent civilians, President Siad said that the Ethiopian regime and its allies should bear in mind that neither the Somali people nor their government would be intimidated by their aggressions or their baseless propaganda. The Somali leader denounced Radio Moscow's recent consistent hostile propaganda against Somalia, and said the Soviet Union should reconsider its present attitude to the SDR.

Speaking on the recent events in Kenya's northeastern province, President Siad held Ethiopia responsible for the recent troubles in the province adding that Ethiopia's aim was to undermine Somalia-Kenya relations.

He urged the Kenyan leaders to make an in-depth study of the crisis and to find out the real plotters instead of harrassing innocent local inhabitants.

"It should be crystal clear that Somalia does not nurse any territorial ambitions against Kenya and we have consequently invited our brothers with goodwill in order to reach an adequate and right solution," he said.

Referring to the recent Somali-U.S.A. agreement, President Siad expressed surprise over the "unfriendly statements" emanating from some circles close to the American administration which, he said, were aimed at compromising the substance of the agreement. We said that such malicious statements, hinting the alleged presence of regular Somali troops in Western Somalia, were being utilized paradoxically as a source of information just as Ethiopia's propaganda campaign. [sentence as received]

"We declare once more that there is no Somali Army in Western Somalia, and that the Somali Government would like to see that these baseless and malicious campaigns on the part of some American circles be stopped as they can compromise the bilateral relations between the two countries."

DEFENSE MINISTRY REPORTS ETHIOPIAN AIR RAIDS

27 Nov

LD271736 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 27 Nov 80 EA

[Excerpts] A statement released by the Ministry of Defense today states that four Abyssinian aircraft attacked the village of Adado, in the Ghelgudut area, at 1045. The aircraft that launched the provocative attacks against the village of Adado killed 31 civilians and wounded 39. They destroyed 50 civilian dwellings. The section of the air defense of our brave armed forces of the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] repulsed the enemy aircraft. The provocative attacks the Abyssinians have been launching against the SDR lately are part of the planned naked aggression against the SDR.

28 Nov

LD281510 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 28 Nov 80 EA

[Text] A Ministry of Defense statement says that at 0830 today four Abyssinian air force planes attacked Dusa Mareb, the provincial capital of Ghelgudut region. This provocative act of aggression on the part of the Abyssinian air force on the town of Dusa Mareb was bravely repulsed by the Somali defense forces, which inflicted a disastrous defeat on the four attacking aircraft, shooting down two of them.

The morning raid by Abyssinian aircraft on the town was also responsible for the indiscriminate deaths of 10 civilians, the destruction of 10 houses and damage to 50 more. The Defense Ministry statement goes on to say that the number of those wounded in the air raid on Dusa Mareb, Ghelgudut region, will be released later.

NIGERMARCHERS SUPPORT GOVERNMENT, DENOUNCE AL-QADHDHAFI

AB031724 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Excerpt] The population of the (Niya) administrative district in the Zinder Department met this morning at the prefecture in order to demonstrate their support for the Supreme Military Council and the government. A (?report by) Issaka Mamadou:

All the traditional rulers of the administrative district, school children and all the socio-professional organizations lined up behind the local subprefect, Mr (Rollins Hou), and undertook a long march of support. Carrying all sort of placards with slogans denouncing the suicidal policy being evolved by Al-Qadhdhafi, they shouted "down with Al-Qadhdhafi" through all the streets of (Niya). The school children, in particular, participated massively in the march, each one of them carrying the national flag. The zeal and enthusiasm with which this march was undertaken demonstrates the strong security within our front and also indicates that Niger remains one and inseparable.

After the walk, which lasted 1 hour 30 minutes, everyone gathered at the prefecture, where the subprefect, Mr (Rollins Hou), thanked the population for their (?massive) participation and for their desire to safeguard the security of the nation.

UPPER VOLTAMILITARY LEADERS HOLD FIRST MEETING WITH PREFECTS

AB041103 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 3 Dec 80

[Text] The leaders of the Military Committee of Redress for National Progress received the 12 prefects of our country at the presidential palace this morning. The ceremony was presided over by Col Saye Zerbo who was accompanied by Lt Col Barthelemy Kombasere, Kone Brahima, Mezien Badembie, Felix Tiemtarboum and Maj Dafar Leopold. As for the prefects, they were led by the director of political affairs at the Interior Ministry, Mr Souleymane Diallo. It must be recalled that the latter is charged with the handling of current affairs at the Interior Ministry.

From the start, Col Saye Zerbo stated that this first contact of the committee with the prefects comes under the watchword of frankness.

[Begin Recording] [Zerbo] The Committee of Redress for National Progress welcomes you to this first meeting, which will come under the watchword of frankness. Considering your rank in the nation, it would be superfluous for us to recall here the causes of the recent events and the political attitudes which led the army to assume its responsibilities. But we would rather like to tell you that the military committee counts on your entire readiness in order to implement in the best possible way the instructions it may issue, after deciding with you what ought to be done

The second thing we would like to stress is that given the army's determination to [words indistinct], the total involvement of each of you is necessary. Therefore, the military committee is convinced that you are ready to give it your support in order to achieve national progress. Lastly, for the love of our motherland, each of us should silence their own personal feelings and give precedence to the national interest. [end recording]

According to our reporter, (Bajira Ben Edouard), the prefects then briefed the military committee on the different problems they face in their departments. The committee took note of them and told the prefects that the necessary and adequate solutions will be found as soon as possible. Before concluding the meeting, Col Saye Zerbo stated that such meetings with prefects will be increased in order to allow them to keep abreast of the situation prevailing in the departments.